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SATURDAY NIGHT

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East of the Rhine Allied armies are tearing into the heart of the Reich in a supreme bid to bring the war in Europe to a swift conclusion. The many-pronged drive has chopped up enemy resistance into isolated pockets where troops like these, in process of mopping up, advance under a smoke-screen.

THE FRONT PAGE

Roaring To Victory

THIS long war is fast nearing its end. That perhaps is enough for the moment, without thinking of what it has cost, what convulsions it has caused the world and will cause it for many years to come. Victory is in sight! Our efforts have reached their culmination. Our forces on land and sea and in the air, are justifying all of our hope and confidence by giving a classic lesson to the greatest military nation of our times.

It is the pay-off at last. Although the enemy still has two hundred divisions, of varying quality, strung out around a great circumference, his reserves, his oil supply, his endurance are exhausted at last. A great hole has been opened up in the Western Front which he lacks the resources to seal. Our commanders are exploiting their opportunity, as enemy broadcasters ruefully admit, with as much drive and imagination as the German commanders showed in France in 1940. The Germans never imagined that their armies could be torn apart and chewed up, as were the hapless French.

With Monty's meticulous preparation in the north, with Hodges' luck in the centre, and Patton's impetuosity in the south, the famed Rhine line has been torn to shreds in the space of three weeks. Through a great breach, the intended defenders of which had been annihilated west of the river, our tank columns have roared into the German rear areas, are cutting and sewing the demoralized supermen into pockets, and slicing up provinces in a day.

Not only does our break-through promise the encirclement of the enemy's main forces in the north, but other drives are clearly aimed at thwarting his plan, too widely advertised, for a "fortress" stand in the south. He could, theoretically, still retire his army of Italy and some of his forces in Austria into his prepared Bavarian-Tirolean fortress. But our attack on the Western Front alone has already cut off the southward retreat of many of his best divisions.

There is a good chance, from all indications which we have of defection and surrender among the German troops, apathy and defeatism among the civilians, and the gravely declining food supply of the Reich, that under crushing pressure from three sides, and the relentless and terrible pounding from the air, the whole German edifice will collapse with a resounding crash. There will be some stubborn, suicide stands by SS troops, but the end of the big war seems very near.

Election Rubbish

WITHIN the Province there is a lot of nonsense, particularly Progressive Conservative nonsense, being talked about the Ontario election. The Conservative press is busy building "sinister alliances" and "plots" in which C.C.F., Liberal and Communist forces combined in dark and mischievous intrigue to unseat good Saint George and foil his works of mercy. Such imaginings have their place, we suppose, in election strategy but the frenzy with which they are being followed by the Progressive Conservatives does not add to our confidence in their cause.

A certain amount of rubbish is traditionally a part of election campaigns. The coming Ontario election, however, we believe will show new extravagances along this line. It is an election which, at the start at least, is distinguished by not having a single concrete issue of major importance with the one exception of Mr. Drew's stand on family allowances—and on this the Premier seems to be capable of skating on thin ice quite successfully. It is a situation which promises a campaign overflowing with personalities and fiction.

There is no call for Conservative coyness about the election. Mr. Drew had good reason to want it as much as anyone else and certainly when he made his family allowances speech last August he was issuing an open invitation. The desire for an election is quite reasonable and needs no apologies. A minority Conservative government is clearly in a most awkward position and once it has demonstrated the ineptitude of the situation it is quite justified in going to the polls.

This paper has already said that it believes Mr. Drew is the best available man to head the Province of Ontario. We believe so sincerely and are satisfied that if the Premier and his supporting press showed the same faith in his ability and administration it would be to their advantage. In 1943 Mr. Drew ran an admirable election on a clear-cut program. Since taking over he has given good government. We hope that he will again run a constructive campaign based on this record and not centre his attack on the recrimination which is the keynote at the start.

A campaign of personalities, if he allows himself to be drawn into it, can, we are confident, react to Premier Drew's disadvantage. Mr. Drew personally is a political leader who at times shows much of the stature of greatness, but not consistently so. At other times he can veer alarmingly towards the other end of the scale. And he is most susceptible when on the defensive, as he will be in this election—in contrast to 1943 when he was fighting as opposition leader. All three of the opposition parties are well aware of the Premier's weaknesses and will be straining to bait him. It will be interesting to see if they succeed.

Ontario and Canada

THERE has been much wishful thinking emanating from Ottawa about the potential federal implications of Ontario, most of it motivated by a spirit of pie-in-the-sky. On present chances it seems extremely unlikely that either the Progressive Conservatives or Liberals will gain the national prestige from the provincial contest which they are optimistically predicting. Significantly, there is little optimism coming from C.C.F. quarters. Undoubtedly (again on present chances), the C.C.F. stands to lose most and gain least.

Of the three parties the Liberals would seem to have the best chance to benefit. Granting that Ontario goes to the polls before the Dominion (and at the time of writing this is by no means certain) any Liberal gains would reflect favorably throughout the country, and it is conceded that the Liberals should improve. The low estate of the Party in Ontario has undoubtedly had a bad influence on its national welfare and the mere fact that it is once again vigorous, as it undoubtedly will be under Mr. Hepburn, will have a certain tonic effect in all sections of the country. Of course a Liberal victory would have definitely major implications but that possibility is too far-fetched at present to be considered.

UNRRA Needs Help

UNRRA has recently come under cross fire from various directions, and from within as well as from without. The crossfire is directed against three vulnerable spots.

The first of them is UNRRA's inactivity. It has been said that the organization is paralyzed. This criticism, it seems to us, is the least justified of the three. UNRRA has no supplies and no shipping at its disposal but those which are allocated to it; allocated, that is, by the political and military authorities of those of the United Nations who have sup-

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Miss Madeleine Parent —*Photo by Nakash.*

NAME IN THE NEWS

This Young Woman Became Labor Organizer Via French Convent

By COROLYN COX

THERE are few tougher fields for labor organization than the textile industries. In Canadian labor's tough Province, Quebec, it's a charming, well-bred French-Canadian girl who has won the title of "Labor Leader" in this low wage industry. Madeleine Parent, at the age of 26, is an organizer for the United Textile Workers of America, A.F.L. That a young Quebec woman of her background should be doing this is an arresting indication of the stir going on in that Province.

Madeleine's parents, fairly well-to-do, gave their son and daughter the best French education in the tradition of old Quebec. Madeleine went to St. Urban's Academy of the Ladies of Notre Dame, and then to the convent boarding-school of Ville Marie. There was a great deal of services and chapel, religious teaching and prayer. Madeleine was not altogether happy in her surroundings.

Switched to Trafalgar

After long discussions with the family, she was allowed to switch to the Presbyterian, English-speaking school, Trafalgar—an institution whose record of high scholarship made it such that a well brought up French Canadian lass could, with propriety, attend. Here she found that the upbringing, teaching and outlook on life of English Canadian girls was worlds apart from that of Quebec convent girls—that things she had always assumed as being so in her own French-Canadian tradition were contrary in the tradition of the English girls. There was one teacher of literature who had great admiration for Milton, often quoted his invectives against Roman Catholicism. Madeleine instinctively disliked that teacher, but later recalled how her own new friends were looked upon back in convent.

Full of doubts and misgivings about many things in life, she went on from that school to McGill University. The Trafalgar "bunch" also went there, most of them joined fraternities and prepared to assume their role in life in harmony with their milieu. Madeleine still felt closer to her French convent mates and never became part of the McGill fraternity crowd. After a year at McGill she was elected by the French Club as its delegate to a Youth Convention in Montreal. There the great mixture of young people from labor, farm and middle class groups was a revelation to her. Madeleine moved into a new world.

In her second year at college she joined the Canadian Student Assembly in which groups of students on all college campuses in Canada were campaigning for free scholarships for poor students. In several provinces the government granted the scholarships, but Quebec lagged behind. The drive for scholarships brought a concerted attack against the student movement. Madeleine had not yet defined her position in politics, but she fully supported the students' reform program and participated actively in the movement.

Contact with the labor groups in the Youth movement led to her being asked to head a class of Ladies' Garment Workers, and to teaching English for the Workers' Educational Association. In the early part of the war the students who had been working for social reform became more actively interested in broader questions. Madeleine's work and interests drew her into the labor movement.

In the spring of 1940 the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union went on strike. While Madeleine was in the midst of her graduation exams, she spent every spare moment at the workers' halls listening and talking over the issues with the women and girls from the shops. She felt part of it all.

Since then it has been a steady progress in effectiveness and breadth of understanding. After her classes she brought the women together over coffee, or took them home for a cup of tea, and got to the root of things in long quiet discussions.

In the spring of 1941 Madeleine married a tall, blond, very good looking Icelandic-Canadian from the west. Her husband joined the army in August of '42 and is now overseas, somewhere in Germany—a Captain in a tank regiment.

When he went to the army, Madeleine took a job with a special campaign-organizing committee of the Trades and Labor Council, as office assistant to Paul Fournier and Bob Haddow. At this stage Labor in Quebec was becoming more conscious of its constructive role in the war and taking on more breadth and influence. Later Madeleine was placed in the office of the permanent organizing committee of the Trades and Labor Council and went to work organizing the workers in the brewing, tobacco and other peace-time industries.

In the fall of '42, need for organization in the textile industries seemed to stick out like a sore thumb. Kent Rowley, Representative of the International Union, went to Valleyfield to organize the cotton mills. Later, Madeleine joined the organizing staff of the United Textile Workers of America.

The situation she found was, she says, that the industry was paying as little as 18 and 20 cents an hour with no holidays, about forty-five per cent of the workers were women, and many children between the ages of 11 and 13 were employed. Since then progress has been made, the minimum wage is now about 30 to 35 cents an hour with one week's paid holiday and child labor has been reduced especially on night shifts.

Ever since 1898 the textile industry has been trying to organize. Again and again the union has been broken. Now, says Miss Parent, the union is here to stay, with a solid core of determined men and women in every local. Difficulty is that this mass industry, which employs much semi-skilled labor, has a continual turnover. For example, employees in certain sections of the spinning department change as much as twenty times in a year. Certification of the union as bargaining agent remains extremely difficult so long as Quebec Bill Number 3 remains in force.

Miss Parent now divides most of her time between Valleyfield and Montreal cotton textile mills. She meets the workers at the gates of the mills, visits their homes, leads committees in meetings and negotiates disputes and grievances with the various government authorities. She feels the textile workers are steadily developing in their knowledge of labor legislation, and in understanding of how to manage their own affairs. While Parliamentarians and others talk about "Canadian Unity", an increasing number of intelligent young people like Madeleine Parent are, through the labor movement, actually forging the link between the French and English people of this country.

• •

WHERE CHILDREN ARE CONTENT

WHERE children are content, the swift caress
Of silly play and laughter may impart
A joy too fine for any ponder'd art,
Or mere parade of order'd pompousness,
In disregard of lovely had from less:
Tho' I be gone from temple, and the mart,
I value winnings of the simple heart
More now than ever mid this world's distress!

So much of beauty from the innocent
And dusty ways of common life I gain:
The highway slant of sunlight we attain
Beyond all fencing of the opulent:
The milkman's wagon, turning up a lane
To cottages—where children are content!

TOM MACINNES.

• •

THERE SHALL BE DANCING

THERE shall be dancing
when the tears are spent
And arabesques of laughter
up the heart's ascent.

There shall be music
filigreed on air
And jewel-studded cobwebs
up the winding stair.

There shall be lark-song
threaded in the skies
And shafts of golden sunlight
where the rushes rise.

MARY LEDINGHAM

DEAR MR. EDITOR

Are Independent Girls Absent When the Time Comes to Pay?

Editor, SATURDAY NIGHT:

LETTERS in your paper on equal pay for women and men are not getting any closer to the answer, which is this; women actually placed in a position of equality refuse consistently to meet their fair financial obligations.

I'm a bachelor close to 40. My experience is that unmarried women take it as their inalienable right to allow men to do all the paying. I don't speak of "steady company" when the girl is so charming that the man *wants* to pay, but rather of casual acquaintances and often strangers; the kind who take and give nothing. They have no conversation, no intelligence, "no nothing."

I make $4,800 a year which after taxes leaves me $2,780. Occasionally I get up north for a couple of days skiing. On my last trip I walked into a favorite rendezvous and was hailed by a girl whom I had "dated" once, with no great satisfaction. She was at a large table, mostly women, and it cost me $11.50 for my coca cola and their highballs. I don't drink. I can't afford it. Seldom do you find the gifted and attractive women in such places; rather the aggressive daughters of the good parents who want to be recognized as in the swim. I'm trying to get up courage to spend no money on any woman unless I know her to be attractive, intelligent, witty and amusing. If I ever meet one answering that description, I think I'd marry her, if she'd have me. Meanwhile I'll see if I have the fortitude to tell the others to dig down into their purses for something more than a powder-puff.

HOWLAND GREID

•

Timely Remarks

Editor, SATURDAY NIGHT:

IT IS high time that war correspondents or their publishers discard for all time the currently misused phrase "of all time". This is not a superlative, it is a nonsensical error. Surely an air raid or artillery barrage or paratroop descent that occurs *today* will find a place in history somewhere in the limitless sweep "of all time". And yet these scribblers tell us that yesterday's like event was the most super-colossal of all time. How do they know? If a finite end of Time has been found, let us in on the secret.

Winnipeg, Man. L. W. BILLINGSLEY

•

Bouquet for the Neighbors

Editor, SATURDAY NIGHT:

I AM an Englishman who came to Canada 35 years ago, and have travelled extensively throughout Eastern and Central Canada. I have found in French-Canada always the most courteous treatment, and in fact the people have something in the cultural sense that the English-speaking part of Canada has not. I have always found a better attitude on their part towards the English-speaking folk than vice-versa, and when in French Canadian company always feel a little humiliated when I see their facility in changing from one language to another as compared with ourselves.

Sydney, N.S. MARK W. BOOTH

•

Kind Words From Abroad

Editor, SATURDAY NIGHT:

YOUR excellent magazine is greatly appreciated by me and by several Canadians who make my flat their headquarters when they are on leave. Its sense of proportion, tolerance and humor make it very good reading. I am a Civil Defence worker and four-and-a-half years of coping with sudden death and smashed homes make me a little impatient with some overseas publications. SATURDAY NIGHT always fits into the picture and leaves me with the relieved feeling that you know what it's all about.

The other night I was called out to an "incident". When dawn came it was necessary to clear a room in a battered house to set up an Enquiry Point; an information bureau, to cope with anxious people wanting news of relatives and friends. I needed help, but all the Civil Defence Men were desperately occupied, trying to save trapped casualties. Then I saw two Canadians, and I knew I was all right. They did the job in the real Canadian way; efficiently, quietly, with no heroics exchanged and no explanations necessary. I shall never know their names, or they mine. None of us asked; the job was the important thing. They went off with "Sure there's nothing else we can do? Well, good luck!"

As a people you are a very great comfort in a tight corner.

(Miss) BEB HEARNDEN

London, Eng.

•

The Bonus Administration

Editor, SATURDAY NIGHT:

I WAS asked, following the Minister of National Health and Welfare's broadcast on the cash grant scheme on March 21 for reconciliation of my statement in article 4 (Mar. 17)) that a staff of approximately 2,000 was being assembled under the aegis of the plan when the Minister referred to a Departmental staff of 500. I think it well to make this clear lest any of your readers have the same query.

In his broadcast, the Minister must have referred only to immediate staff for in debate in the House (House of Commons Debates July 31st 1944), he himself listed 500 fieldstaff, 500 "in the different centres out in the provinces", and 900 treasury officers, a total of 1,900 which he himself corrected in the same debate to 600 for Treasury Board, a minimum of 1,600 without the obvious additions in many related departments involved.

Though the Minister cited only Departmental staff it is to be noted that the Estimates now tabled provide for roughly $2,400,000 in the Welfare Department for this administration but there is also $1,900,000 in Treasury Estimates, almost entirely for extra work on the bonus plan.

The public do not seem to realise that, at present rates of interest, even these two administrative items have the effect of adding over $125,000,000 to National Debt and of putting into an overhead personnel between two and three times as much as is spent in a year in the entire child care and protection services of the nine provinces and 4,000 plus municipalities. And, these two items are not all the costs that will be involved.

Ottawa, Ont. CHARLOTTE WHITTON

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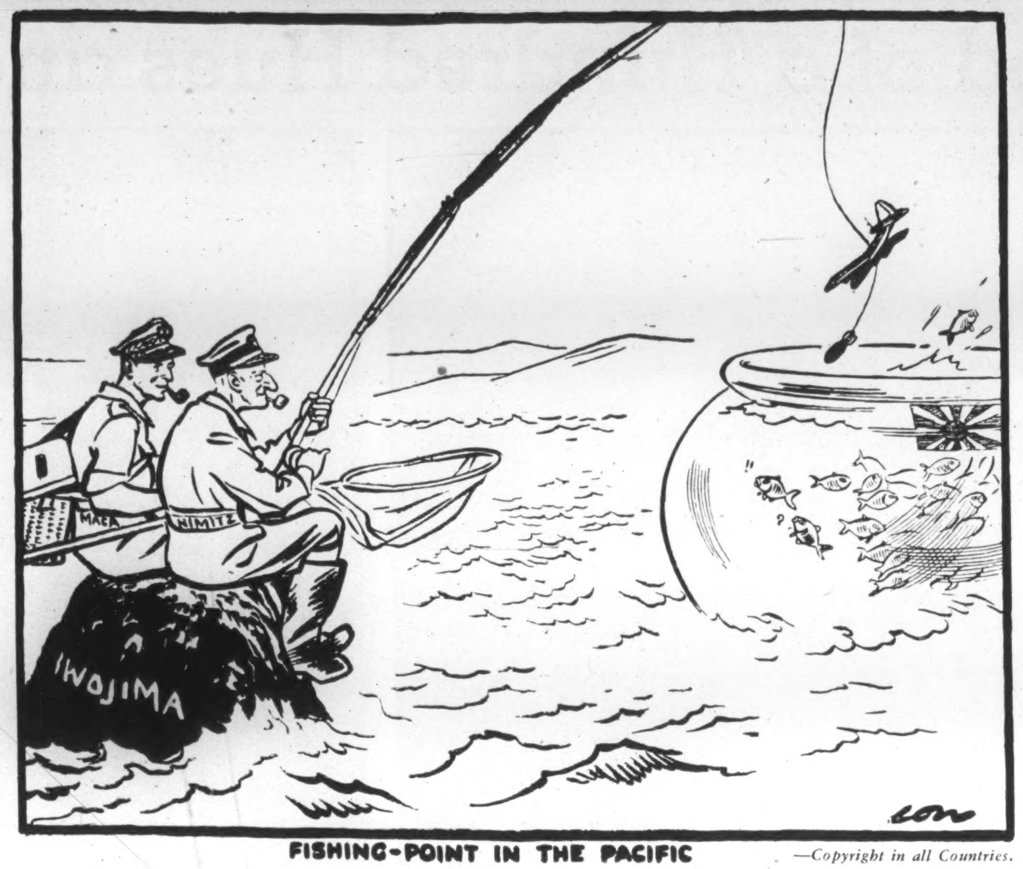


FISHING-POINT IN THE PACIFIC —*Copyright in all Countries.*

The Front Page

(Continued from Page One)

plies and shipping to spare for UNRRA's purposes. That very little can be spared at present is neither the fault of UNRRA nor that of the nations concerned.

Things are different regarding the other two weak spots. One of them is the topheaviness of UNRRA. The organization appears to be overorganized. Apart from this, if one considers some of the appointments to important positions one can only conclude that incompetence is rife in the personnel management. On the other hand, it seems to be a matter of policy that experts from the countries in which UNRRA will presumably work are only grudgingly, if at all, appointed; and this policy is not wise. UNRRA was never meant to be a junior mate of the State Department and the Foreign Office.

The third point, too, concerns policy. The question of competence is highly complicated and obscure. It is not easy to find out who may call UNRRA into a certain country—the Allied military or the government of the country concerned. And apparently no provision is made for cases in which a liberated country is involved in internal difficulties. At any event, this complicatedness and obscurity have caused some liberated countries to hesitate in applying for help from UNRRA for fear that they may fall under outside economic and political domination.

All this leads to the conclusion that UNRRA needs help from its policy-making body, namely, the governments of its 44 member nations. If this help is not forthcoming soon the magnificently-conceived undertaking will suffer irreparable damage from petty squabbles.

Publicity Threat

ONE of the most serious political problems that will eventually have to be faced has been brought sharply before us by the indication that the Saskatchewan Government intends setting up a department of government which, quite frankly it seems, is going to preach socialism, and by the action of the Quebec Government towards establishment of a provincial radio system. We know of no single problem which offers more difficulty of solution and which contains more potential danger to our political health than the question of government publicity services. The threat inherent in such instruments which can so easily, and so effectively, be used by the party in power for political advantage, and the questions of ethics which they involve, and which their use will continually involve, are frightening.

In the present case of Saskatchewan, for instance, where is a line to be drawn? The government is pledged to eventual socialism. Is it not therefore justified in informing the people of the Province of the program which it is following and of the basis of this program? And is it not justified in using direct salesmanship to make this program, on which it was elected, effective, even though such salesmanship includes of necessity advancement of its own party doctrine of socialism? Of course it isn't, but with the present trend towards more and more direct administration by government we believe it is going to become increasingly hard to convince not only Saskatchewan but all governments.

Until now there has been a standard principle, not well-defined but still unanimously followed, on government publicity and we are satisfied that any deviation from it promises serious consequences. This principle is that all government information be confined strictly to fact and that any political elaboration or salesmanship be expressed in party statements or by individual members through traditional channels (the floors of parliaments, the hustings and the press).

The Dominion Government, which has gone far beyond the provinces in the matter of publicity, has so far as we know not deviated from this principle. In family allowances, which would be a most tempting field in which to stray, it has, we believe, stayed strictly within bounds and kept all information and official statements confined to fact. Explanations of, and arguments for, the principles of the bill have been left to speeches and statements by individual members. This is a procedure which necessarily is slower than would be so if high-powered salesmanship were available, but in government we have always considered it necessary to put safety before speed.

What makes the problem much more complicated is that in avoiding the obvious dangers of publicity we are liable to lean too far backwards and handicap ourselves by ignoring an instrument which has become just as essential in government as in every other field. And in our attitude so far we have, in fact, been doing just this. Unquestionably it would be preferable, from a political standpoint, if we could just eliminate all government publicity and information services. But this is something which day by day becomes more impossible. And there is no doubt that we have been lagging in taking advantage of such information tools as can properly be used, often to the extent where the lack of such tools is a severe handicap. Practically any cabinet minister or higher civil servant can give instances, particularly in the provinces.

Instances particularly in mind are the fields of health and education. In these two fields every province in the Dominion is either carrying out or planning major changes in administration which require local approval (except in Saskatchewan which, it seems, has some doubt about the wisdom of recognizing local rights). The changes concerned involve a wealth of explanation and the provincial departments responsible for putting them into effect have a definite need for well-prepared literature and information to help in presenting a clear picture to local authorities and citizens. Yet in none of the provinces, so far as we know, is there any organization available to prepare this material, unless perhaps in Saskatchewan. It is a great lack and one which very definitely is being felt. But, beyond this, it is a lack which unfortunately encourages the temptation in government, already grown during the war to the stage where it causes apprehension, towards autarchy. The harder a job appears the more inviting is "order-in-council" and any administrative tools that will make government's job easier should most certainly be available.

We have no doubt that the instrument of publicity will be increasingly used. Conditions call for it more and more. And we also, as we said before, have no doubt that it is going to be increasingly difficult for government to recognize safety limits in its use. It is a situation which promises to become increasingly dangerous and one which calls particularly for a live and watchful press.

Women Wage Earners

THE word "reactionary" is bandied about nowadays, with no more meaning than the word "parallelogram" with which Daniel O'Connell overawed a Dublin fishwife. But if readers wish to know a specimen of a real reactionary they have only to look to the Quebec legislature and they will find one in the person of Rene Chaloult, representative of the ancient constituency of Lotbiniere.

Recently Mr. Chaloult launched an attack on the employment of women in war industries, that, in essence could only mean that he is opposed to women obtaining employment in factories of any kind. Probably he is also opposed to their obtaining employment in offices where the moral hazards he visualizes must be at least equal.

He cannot show that the moral dangers in munition plants are greater than in ordinary peacetime factories. In truth they are probably less, for in war plants women are under stricter discipline, work harder and on release think mainly of a good sleep. As is inevitable in wartime, there has been in Quebec a slight increase in the percentage of illegitimate births; but Quebec makes a better showing in that respect that most other provinces, Canada and probably any country in the world. Can Mr. Chaloult seriously argue that these girls would have been safer idling in the vicinity of military camps than working in munition factories?

For many decades the city of Quebec has been a leading centre of shoe manufacturing, an industry in which female labor is regarded as indispensable. In all those decades, women have been employed in the factories along the River St. Charles, with no serious consequences that anyone has heard of. Anyone who motored through the rural districts of Quebec in summer during the peace years, has seen countless women of various ages working in the fields and domestic service was more easily obtained than in other parts of Canada. Would anybody seriously argue that field work or domestic offer greater protection to the morals than factory work?

In Ontario Mr. Chaloult's agitation must be classed as very old stuff, since the issue of women's right to become wage earners was a minor issue of the federal election campaign of 1882. It was the first election after protection had become a national policy in 1878; a step which led to a large increase in factories, employing female labor. The *Globe* was then the official organ of the Liberal party, and one of its staff wrote an editorial making the same accusations against factories as fountain heads of loose morality. There was immediate indignation in the new factory towns of this province. Conservative stump speakers were not slow to denounce the Liberal party as "traducers of Canadian womanhood." At the ensuing poll it was estimated that the unfortunate editorial cost Hon. Edward Blake at least ten seats.

In the eighties employment of women was barred in the Parliament Buildings of Ontario, and frowned on in most business offices. The emancipation of women in this respect was due to The Hon. Timothy Blair Pardee, Commissioner of Crown Lands at the time. He threw open his department to clerks of either sex. His action caused considerable public controversy and the dangers revived in the mind of Mr. Chaloult were not left unmentioned. It is astounding that arguments exploded so long ago, should now be revived. That is why the member for Lotbiniere is a public curiosity—Canada's No. 1 reactionary.

The Passing Show

THIS year will go down in history as election year. And at the moment we are most curious as to who will go down with it.

•

Little has been heard of Goering lately. Judging from reports all the other fat of the land in Germany seems to have disappeared too.

•

Conservatives predict that Mr. Drew will soon be heading a government again with a comfortable majority. And that is a prediction which is intended to give nothing but discomfort to the enemy.

•

Short Epic Poem on Political Pitfalls

Mitch itched
Drew was slew

•

Quebec is the big federal question mark. And pretty soon the politicians will be begging the question.

•

The Nova Scotia Legislature has disregarded the wage ceiling and voted itself an increased stipend. After paying the high costs of living in Halifax it hit the ceiling.

•

Premier King has denied that he referred to Mr. Hepburn as the man "who has done more to put the Liberal Party where it is today than any other man in the country." The names of other contestants for this distinction are being modestly withheld for the time being.

•

Neutral observers who have known Hitler from his early days declare that he is now a hopeless maniac. One thing can be said for the Fuehrer is that in some things he has always been consistent.

•

Fashion Note

Mr. King's Easter bonnet
Has a question mark upon it
And Mr. Bracken's has gay touches from North
  Grey
But Mr. Coldwell has a model
That is really something novel
You can turn it inside out from day to day.

•

"A wave of German peace feelers is striking the neutral capitals of Europe," says a news service release. "Tentacles" may be the more appropriate word.

•

McNAUGHTON CAUGHT IN FOG
—Headline in Montreal paper.

Perhaps the General was laying down a smoke screen.

•

"What's difficult in choosing an Easter bonnet?" asks a woman's page editorial. The husband.

•

A war correspondent reports that drunkenness is increasing among German officers. Probably helps them to see double when they're looking over the reserves.

•

Antiques to the value of $10,000,000 were on show for sale recently in Madison Square Garden. We understand that wartime price ceiling restrictions were not imposed, but no new models were permitted.

•

Thinking of Enemies

Were I a Retriever
I'd be a gay deceiver.
My bark would be only the precursor
Of a bite a whole lot worser.

STUART HEMSLEY

•

A 23 year old mother of three children in Tiffin, Ohio has taken up the profession of steeplejack to escape the drudgery of housework. This, we suppose, is what psychologists describe as rising above one's environment.

•

A grapefruit hurled at a hold-up man thwarted a restaurant robbery in Montreal recently. This is not the first time that the lethal qualities of the grapefruit have been in the public eye.

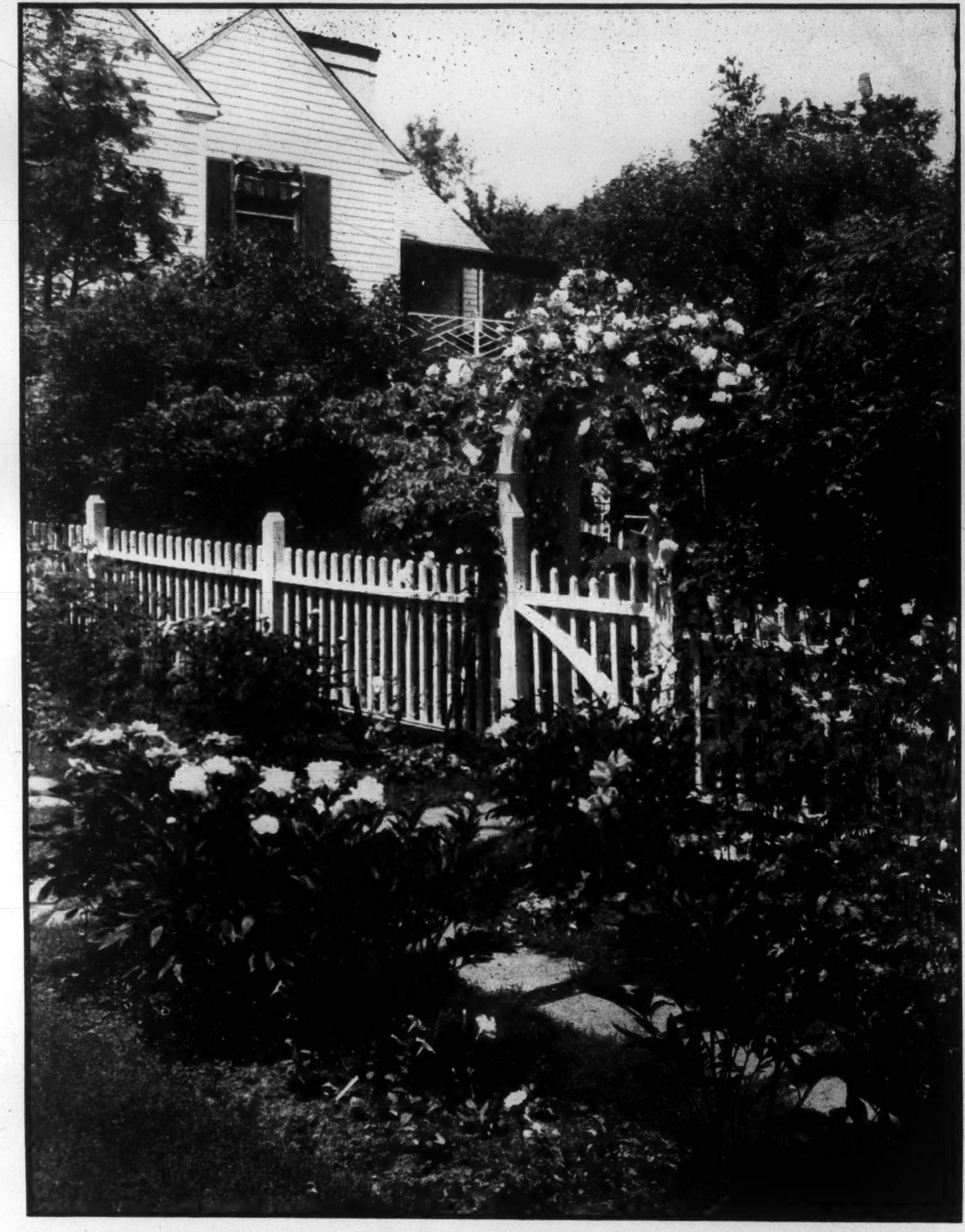
•

Spain has been chosen by the Big Three to be the testing ground of the Yalta principle that all peoples must be given the right to choose their own form of government. No one can say that the three Big Boys haven't a sense of humour.

•

It is a curious fact, says a writer, that no editor, reporter, editorial writer, or newspaper critic is commemorated in the Journalists' Corner of St. Paul's Cathedral. At the moment we have no personal ambition to disturb this tradition.

It's Fashioned of a Hundred Hues and Patterns—



A graceful archway, its trellised form abloom with climbing roses, always is attractive.

A semi-circular well topped by potted plants lends charm to this walled garden.

As shown above, a rise in grade furnishes a good foundation for a rock garden.

PHOTOS: RICHARD AVERILL SMITH

By Collier Stevenson

Mary Deputy Lamson, Landscape Architect, uses quantities of Darwin tulips for Spring color.

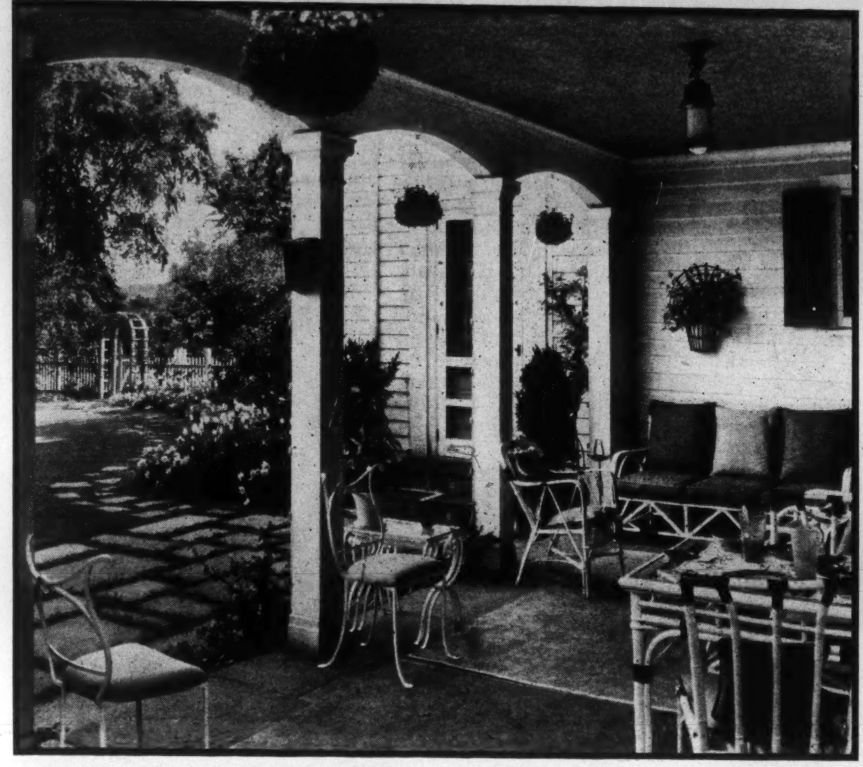
THE really "up and coming" home gardener probably has been steeped in beguiling seed and nursery catalogues for long weeks past, already may have charted proposed changes in plan, even selected various wanted varieties of plants and seeds for this spring's planting. An early start of this sort is particularly advantageous nowadays, of course, because garden supplies are not always as generously available as in pre-war days. By some real concentration now, however, even those of us who have been procrastinating still can choose planting material with reasonable assurance of having our orders filled in toto and thus get our gardens off to a good start.

Flowers, with their beauty of aroma, form and color, their endless variety, have both a visual and psychological importance which inevitably places them first in the affection of all garden-lovers. Nothing in nature is more responsive than flowers to human moods,whether quiet or gay. They are a symbol of life's gladdest events, a source of comfort during the sadness that creeps into every life. Nothing, then, can ever replace flowers as the dominant element in every garden. Floral novelties are not as numerous as in former years, but there are two outstanding new marigolds — Flash and Real Gold — listed in the 1945 All-America Selections. To Flash a silver medal has been awarded, to Real Gold a bronze medal by this year's Council of Judges.

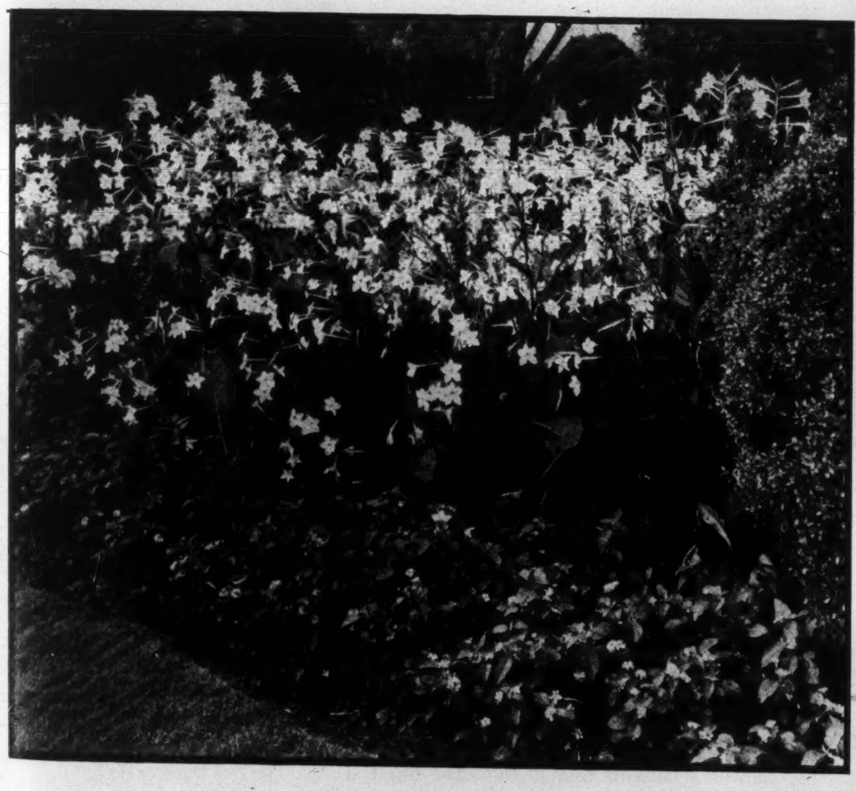
Obviously, vegetables should enter into the Canadian garden scheme more now than in any previous war year. For, to the important matter of supplementing our own national food resources, there has been added the urgency of Canada being able to supply through UNRRA vast quantities of food to the liberated European countries. Naturally, the more vegetables are grown in home gardens for family use, the greater quantity of commercially grown vegetables can be ear-marked for processing and shipment broad.

Garden-owners who have been growing vegetables throughout these emergency years can be counted on to maintain if not surpass their previous records. Undoubtedly, realizing the importance of the object, other owners who may have been unable to get behind the Victory garden movement before will join in this year, either by using some portion of their own gardens or lending unused land for community garden use. For both old-timers and beginners this new season will not be wholly devoid of novelties. Celtus, for instance, still is new enough to be listed as a novelty. Its flavor suggestive of both lettuce and celery, celtus is especially adaptable, as it can be served either raw or cooked. Another vegetable novelty is tampala which some growers pronounce superior to spinach, being notably easy to raise and a thrifty grower even in the hottest summer weather.

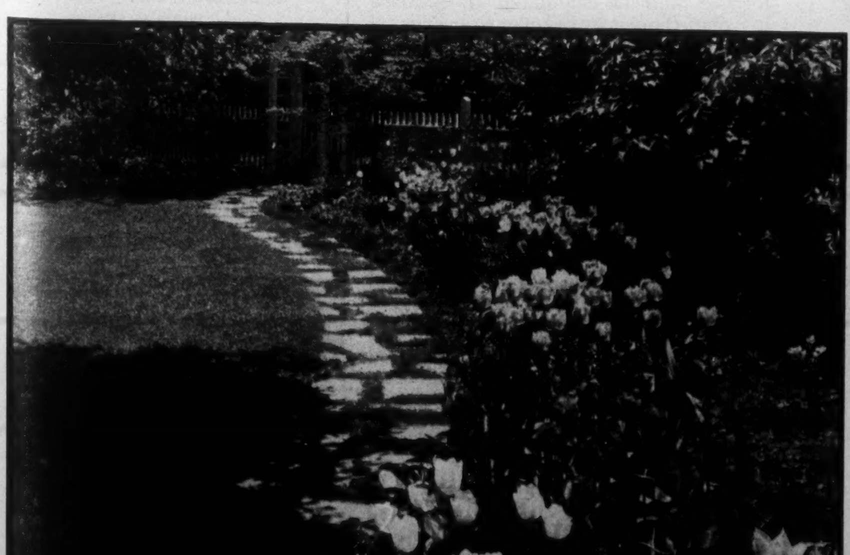
The Fabric for the Lived-In Gardens of Today



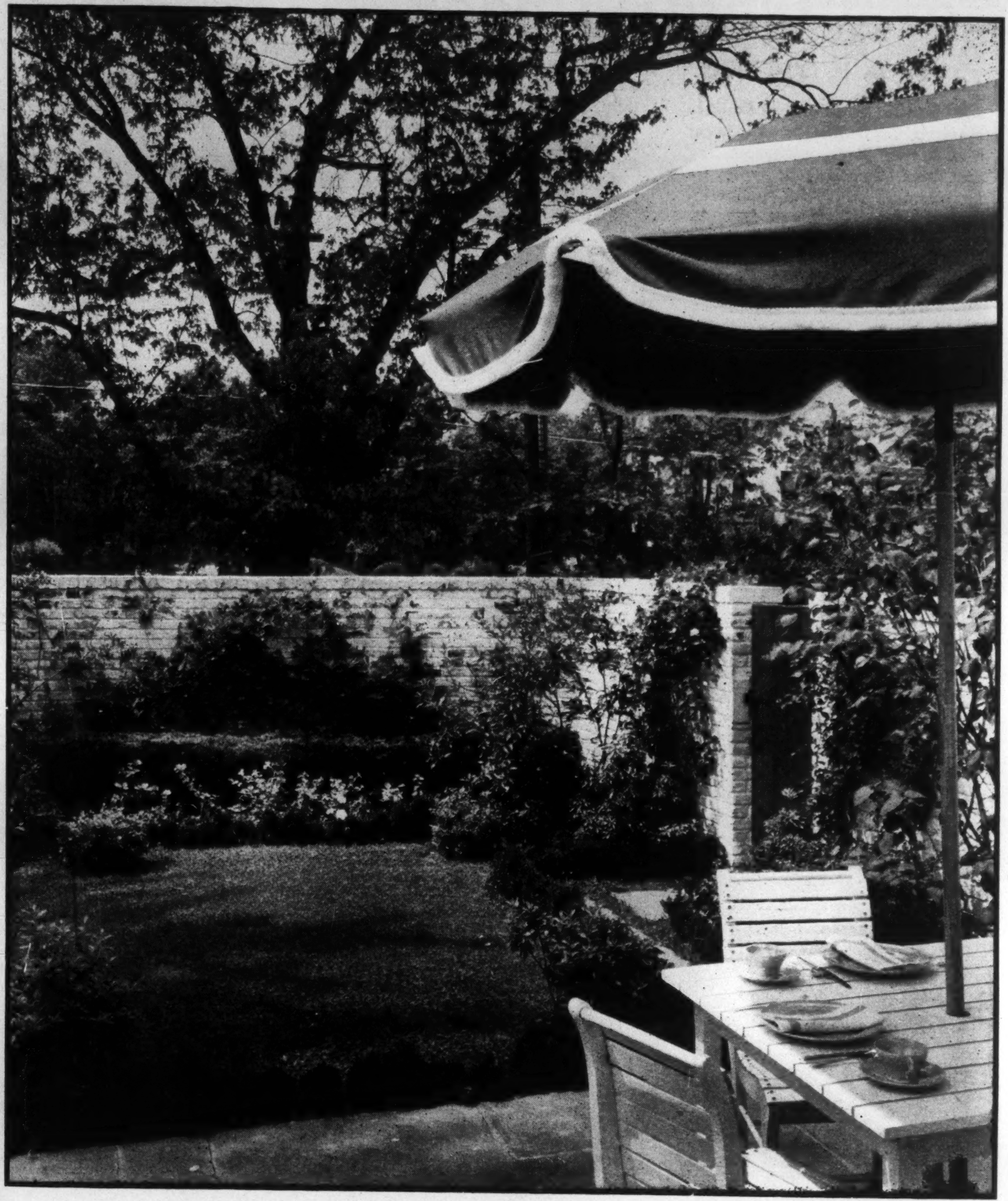
A flagged terrace here agreeably links the living porch and a gracious garden.



Great masses of the old familiar fragrant nicotiana are used effectively here.

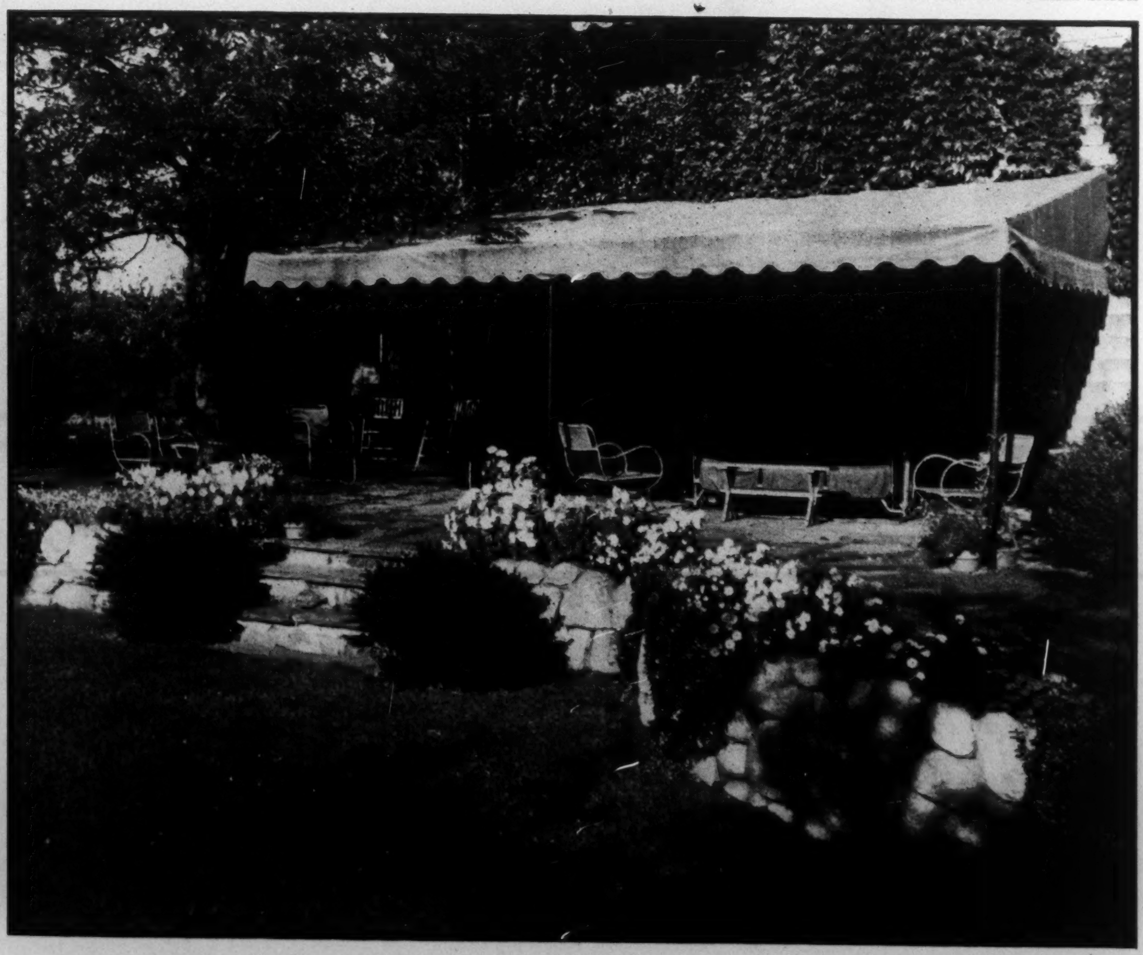


A winding flagstone walk borders a bed gay from early Spring to late Fall.



Sturdy wood furniture, the table topped by an umbrella, is an invitation to meals in the open.

PHOTOS: RICHARD AVERILL SMITH



Even petunias can be spectacular if used generously as Mary Deputy Lamson uses them here.

Conservatives Lead In Early Ontario Book

By D. P. O'HEARN

First betting odds on the Ontario election, says Mr. O'Hearn, favor Mr. Drew. Early estimates say that the Government will go back and possibly, this time, with a clear majority. Much depends on the farm vote and the Labor-Progressive influence on labor. If they swung the right way Mr. Hepburn could get a majority.

THE next few months in Ontario have a good chance of being talked about for some years to come. With the election which for the past year has been inevitable, now before it, the Province is facing a period in its political life which can be very crucial. Any election fought today on the eve of the beginning of the postwar era has an importance beyond normal, and if the people of Ontario should this time respond with a clear mandate to one of the three parties fighting for power, all of which advocate such distinctly different paths, it will naturally mark a most significant point in the Province's history.

Whatever happens, however, (and of course if there is no clear mandate from the election it most probably will mark only another indecisive phase), one certain thing is that the next while in Ontario will be interesting. The political fight promises to be as complicated, as intense and as significant as any in recent experience. For one thing, with the Liberal rejuvenation there promises to be a strong three-way fight in all ridings and in a number of cases the Labor-Progressives will be a fourth contender which will have to be given real consideration. This is a situation which is going to make any accurate advance analysis even less practical than ever. And it also is one which will have much to convey to political students for in many cases it will be a trial run of a situation which will prevail widely across Canada in the federal election.

Three men in the Province are not at all unhappy about going to the polls. Another one, we may judge, is. Premier Drew, Mr. Hepburn and A. A. MacLeod, Labor-Progressive leader, are, to various degrees, all pleased at the prospect. Mr. Jolliffe, one would gather, isn't.

Drew Has What He Wanted

Mr. Drew has most to be happy about. He has been looking for the right opportunity to go to the polls for a year. Now he has been given the chance and apparently there could hardly be a better time. The Progressive Conservative attitude is that if they can't be elected now they never will. Some months from now with postwar problems to tackle there would be a thousand and one things to turn up and react to the Government's disadvantage. But at the moment the opposition hasn't any strong ammunition to throw against Mr. Drew's administration, at least none that will have any marked effect on the Progressive Conservatives' regular supporters.

There is no doubt that Mr. Hepburn is happy, though it is doubtful if his pleasure is as firmly based as Mr. Drew's. The best, and most widely held, opinion on the Liberal leader is that he is taking a gamble. In a situation in the House which was personally intolerable he is held to have made up his mind some time ago that it would be preferable to take a long chance on an election than to continue under Mr. Drew's "bullying".

Mr. MacLeod has reason for great personal satisfaction. Mr. Drew's defeat in many ways can be looked on as a personal victory for the Labor-Progressive leader. A "Drew Must Go" campaign started by his party last fall has had a direct influence on the political trend in the Province during the past few months, and particularly left Mr. Jolliffe with no alternative but to press for Conservative defeat even though political wisdom might have inclined him otherwise.

Without the L.P.P. campaign it is conceivable that an election might have been avoided. The C.C.F. with some falling-off in its labor support, some dissension in its ranks, and a loss of prestige in Grey North, has not been in shape to look forward to a test at the polls and conceivably could have evolved a stand that would have kept its followers satisfied if affairs had run a normal course. But the L.P.P. campaign, directed at labor, made the point that the first issue of the day was to get rid of "reactionary Toryism" and sold it so well that Mr. Jolliffe couldn't ignore it. If party face were to be protected the only course he had to follow was to press for a Drew defeat.

Give Government 40 Seats

The popular early guess, (and with three strong parties and a fourth that's strong in some ridings in the contest it is a guess that is even more unreliable than usual) is that Mr. Drew probably has a good chance of securing a majority. Conservative circles are talking of fifty-five of the ninety seats. The opposition ranks concede them thirty and in more confidential moments admit there is a very good chance they will get forty. The reasoning in the Conservatives' favor is that on their record they stand to lose very little support. The three main issues on which Mr. Drew is going to fight, religious education in the schools, school grants and his immigration plans in Britain, all invite sold Conservative support. The opposition will attack on the family allowances stand, lack of labor policy and a general failure of the Government to fulfil its program. But there isn't much that it can say that will disturb Mr. Drew's support. So far as family allowances are concerned Mr. Drew has back-tracked enough to satisfy any of his followers who might have disagreed with him. Labor is a minor quantity in Conservative backing and in this election will be mainly meat for three other hungry parties. There are points of criticism on fulfilment of the twenty-two point program but again there is nothing that is calculated to cause any disturbance in regular Conservative ranks.

Mr. Drew's group, therefore, are figured to keep the seats they now hold, and with a strengthened Liberal party causing further division in the opposition vote are looked to to pick up the odd seat.

Liberals to Improve

It is generally agreed that the Liberals stand to improve. The most popular estimate gives them from twenty-five to thirty seats. Of these about twenty seats that are conceded are ridings with a very strong or predominant French or foreign vote. They are looked on as Mr. Hepburn's present greatest source of strength and the two main issues that the Liberals forced during the session, religious education and immigration are directed at them.

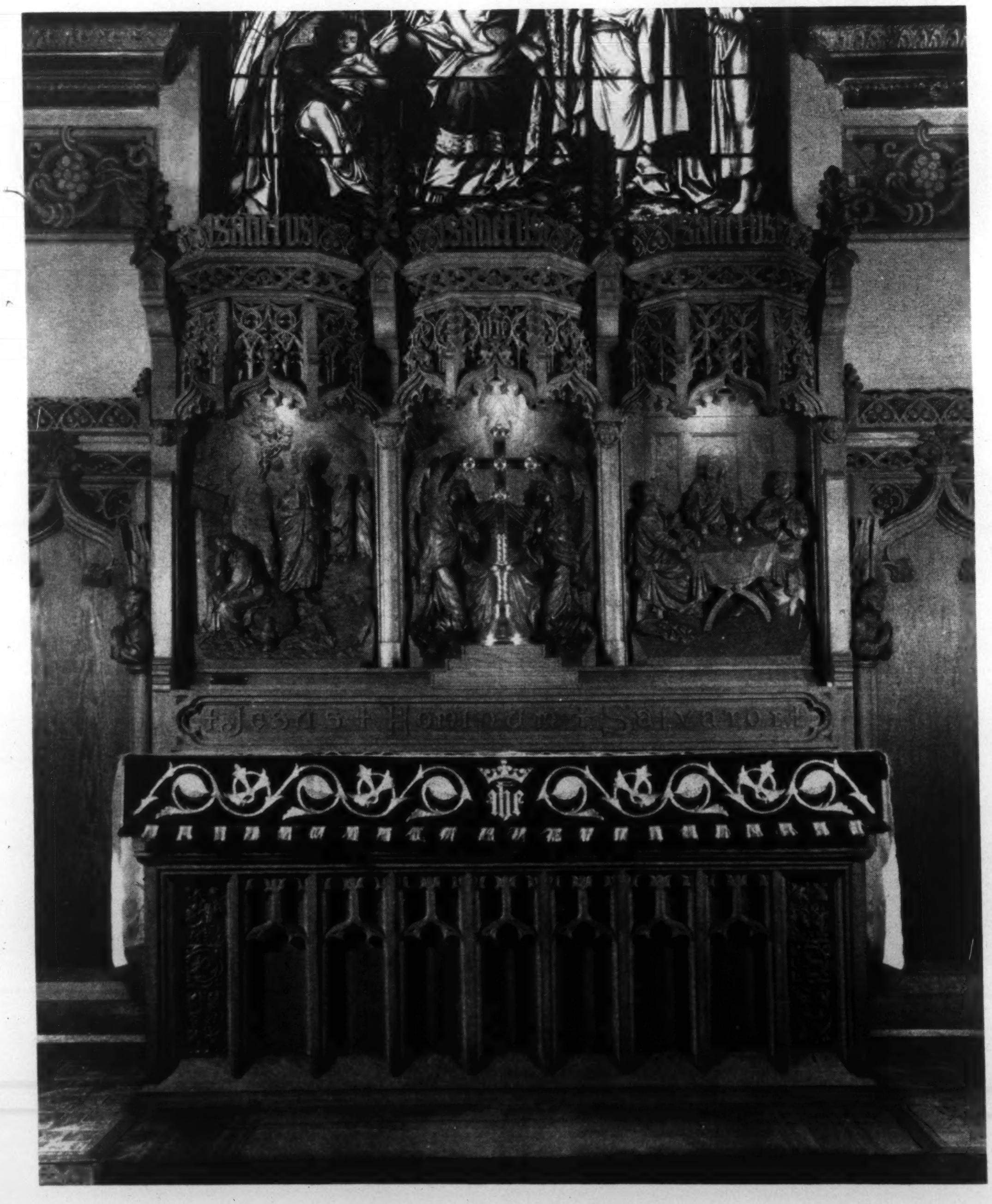
The greatest question-mark in Liberal prospects is the farm vote. The bulk of it went to the Conservatives in the last election and if Mr. Hepburn can regain any of his old hold on it there could be a very serious disturbance in Conservative prospects. However, Mr. Drew's Minister of Agriculture, Colonel Kennedy, is personally very popular in the rural ridings, and the Conservative organization figures it can hold the vote.

C.C.F. chances in the first figuring are bad. Most observers cut their present thirty-two seats down to fifteen or twenty at the most. Aside from the weakening in their position since the last election their chances are lessened by the stand of the Labor-Progressives who since the election have taken a stand of all-out opposition. The L.P.P.'s expect to contest about twenty-five seats, in labor ridings, and this undoubtedly will have a big influence on the C.C.F. vote. (The L.P.P.'s expect to win at least five seats and they have a very good chance of getting them).

No one, however, can sell the C.C.F. short. Their great advantage is their organization which is far superior to the older parties, and being a reform organization based on enthusiasm is naturally at its best when, as during a campaign, it has something concrete to be enthusiastic about. The last Ontario election proved that when it has something to be excited about the C.C.F. can enjoy mushroom growth.

The above is approximately the situation as it stands in the early book. Any one of a number of factors can knock it sky-high but there are two points in particular which can most easily upset it—and it doesn't seem that either one can be at all accurately estimated until election day. One is the strength that Mr. Hepburn will gain in the rural ridings, and the other is the effect that the Labor-Progressives will have on the labor vote.

The two could mean a Liberal majority. If Mr. Hepburn can bring back the solid Liberal farm vote Mr. Drew's back benches could easily be wiped out and his group be cut down to twenty to twenty-five seats. And if in certain ridings the Labor-Progressives cut sufficiently into C.C.F. support or threw their influence to the Liberals they quite possibly could swing enough seats to give Mr. Hepburn the government. However, even very good Liberals would be very foolish to have any faith that it might happen this way.



Masterpiece by Rawlinson

This beautiful altarpiece in St. Simon's Church, Toronto, contains three deeply sculptured oak panels pertaining to the Resurrection of Our Saviour.

The one on the left illustrates the account of Mary Magdalene kneeling and in distress at the discovery of the disappearance of the Lord.

The centre panel depicts two angels, each facing the centre in an attitude of thanksgiving. This panel symbolizes the Jubilate Deo (O, be joyful in the Lord!).

The panel on the right illustrates the account found in the twenty-fourth chapter of St. Luke; Our Lord is seated with two Disciples, and it is when He took bread and blessed it that they recognized Him: Thereupon, He vanished from their sight.

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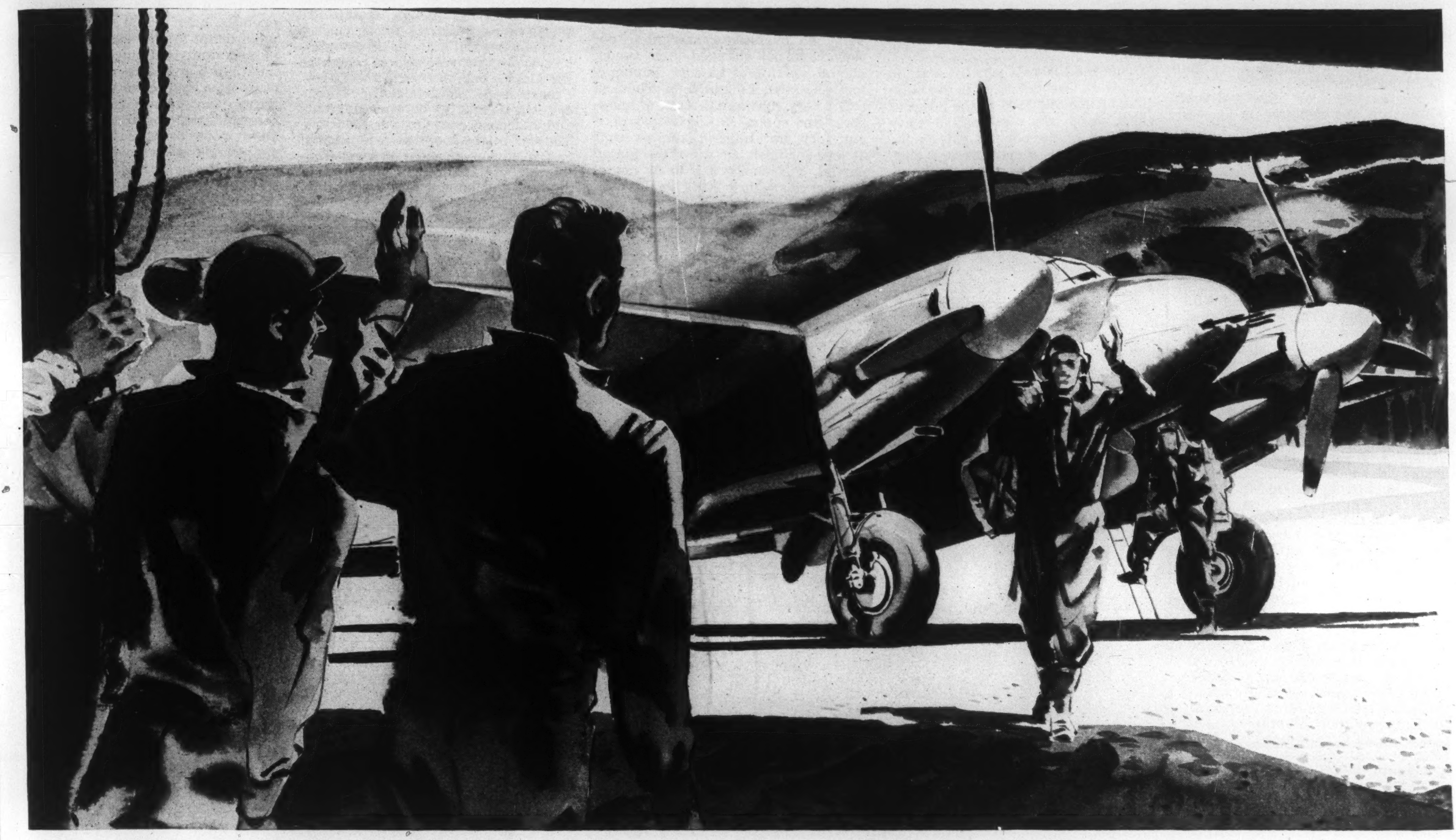

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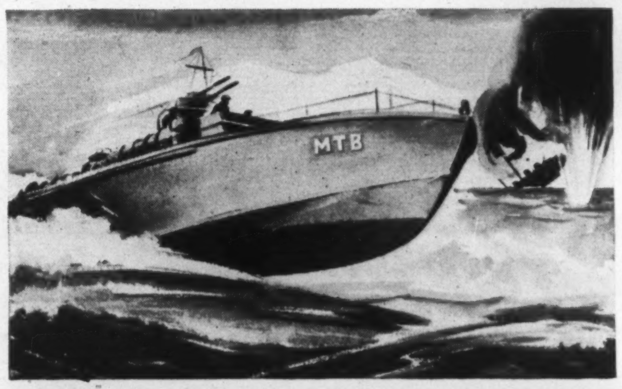
And since then—in Canadian-built Mosquitoes and Lancasters—the Packard-built Rolls-Royce engine has consistently proved that it is an engine fully worthy of the great planes it powers and the valiant men who fly those planes.



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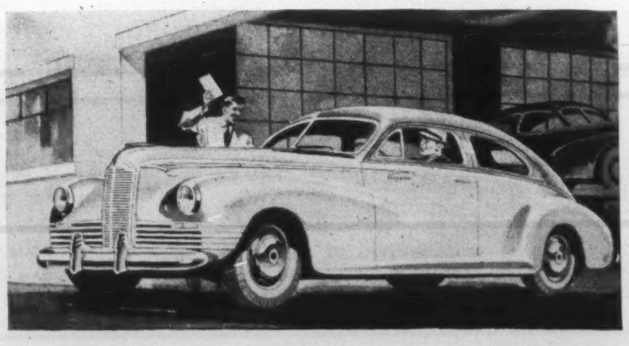

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THE OTTAWA LETTER

Which Party In Canada Can Hope To Win a Federal Majority?

By WILFRID EGGLESTON

THE key to the Dominion general election which, according to the Speech from the Throne, will be held "shortly" after April 17—which probably means late June or early July—seems to lie in the fate of the 65 Quebec seats. An examination of the political situation in Quebec, therefore, might be expected to throw considerable light on the composition of Canada's next government.

Unfortunately for the political soothsayers, the situation in Quebec itself is more confused than it has ever been before, and it is hopeless at the moment to look for any steady light from that direction.

Borden won in 1911 and Bennett won in 1930 because the Province of Quebec split its allegiance; Mackenzie King won in 1921, avoided complete catastrophe in 1925, and won in 1926, because Quebec stayed loyal to him. He won overwhelmingly in 1935 and 1940 because he started out with a solid Quebec. The only election which has been won in this century without a measurable support from the Province was the Union Government election of 1917, and that was under circumstances not likely to be repeated, and certainly with no parallel in 1945.

The well-nigh insuperable task of winning a general election without substantial support from Quebec is clear enough from the figures. There are 180 seats in the rest of Canada. A party needs 123 seats for a clear majority in the present House. The task, then, is to win 123 seats out of 180. Under a simple two-party system, there is nothing impossible about such a sweep. But the present situation is not so clear-cut.

It is necessary, first, to deduct from the 180 seats those which the Social Credit party is almost certain to win in Alberta. After Manning's consolidation of the Aberhart grip on that province, after the failure of the most promising coalition of other parties against Social Credit, he would be a daring prophet who would allow any reduction of the present Social Credit representation in the next House. It might well be increased several seats. But in any event, it would appear to be necessary to deduct ten seats from the 180, and say that the winning party, if it is to get along without Quebec, must obtain 123 seats out of 170.

Then the Labor-Progressives cannot be ignored. In a general election they are likely to win several seats, which must in turn be deducted from the 170.

Scramble for Remainder

Allowing for at least five Labor-Progressive and Independent seats, what a terrific scramble is in sight for the remaining 165 seats! Could any one of the three main contending parties really hope to win 123 of those 165 seats? I would say it needs a miracle to deliver 123 non-Quebec seats to any one of the three major parties, in the diverse and controversial mood of these times.

Consider first the prospects of the C.C.F. They would start off with the expectation of winning a nice handful in Saskatchewan, after their provincial sweep last June. They could count on some help from British Columbia, a seat or two in Alberta, several in Manitoba, perhaps, a seat here and there in the Maritimes. They might do fairly well in Ontario, especially if in the meantime Mr. Jolliffe or a Jolliffe-Hepburn combination had won the Province of Ontario. The service vote will help them. But how would anyone dare to stretch these prospects under the most optimistic circumstances to 123 seats?

The Progressive-Conservatives would have to bank heavily on Ontario, for there has been nothing in the Maritimes or in the West in recent months to offer them much prospect of anything approaching a sweep in those areas. In order to win 123 seats outside of Quebec they would have to take, one would think, almost every one of the 82 Ontario seats. And even then, where would they pick up the extra 41 seats in the remainder of Canada? I doubt whether the most sanguine party organizer privately thinks either of these feats is a possibility.

Could the Liberals win 123 seats in Canada ex Quebec? Even in the landslides of 1935 and 1940, in the latter of which years the Gallup poll gave them 55% of the popular vote of the Dominion, they didn't manage such a feat. And their fortunes have unquestionably slipped a long way since then.

If the above reasoning is sound, then no party can hope to win a clear majority without substantial help from the Province of Quebec.

It is possible, of course, that Quebec will turn away from the rest of Canada and elect a practically solid block of ultra-nationalists who refuse to have any truck or trade with the parties from the rest of Canada. But the evidence from that Province does not suport such a theory.

The Liberal Party is far from being dead in Quebec. It is true that Godbout was defeated by Duplessis, but at that he polled a larger popular vote than the new premier. It is true that many of the federal Liberals have broken with the rest of their party on overseas conscription, but they have not changed their fundamental worship of Laurier, Lapointe, and Canadian Liberalism. There is still a very substantial block of members—and voters—in Quebec who are anti-Tory, anti-Imperialistic, as well as anti-Socialist. Of the three major parties, if a choice has to be made, Premier Mackenzie King has by far the best chance of wooing and winning a large part of Quebec Liberalism.

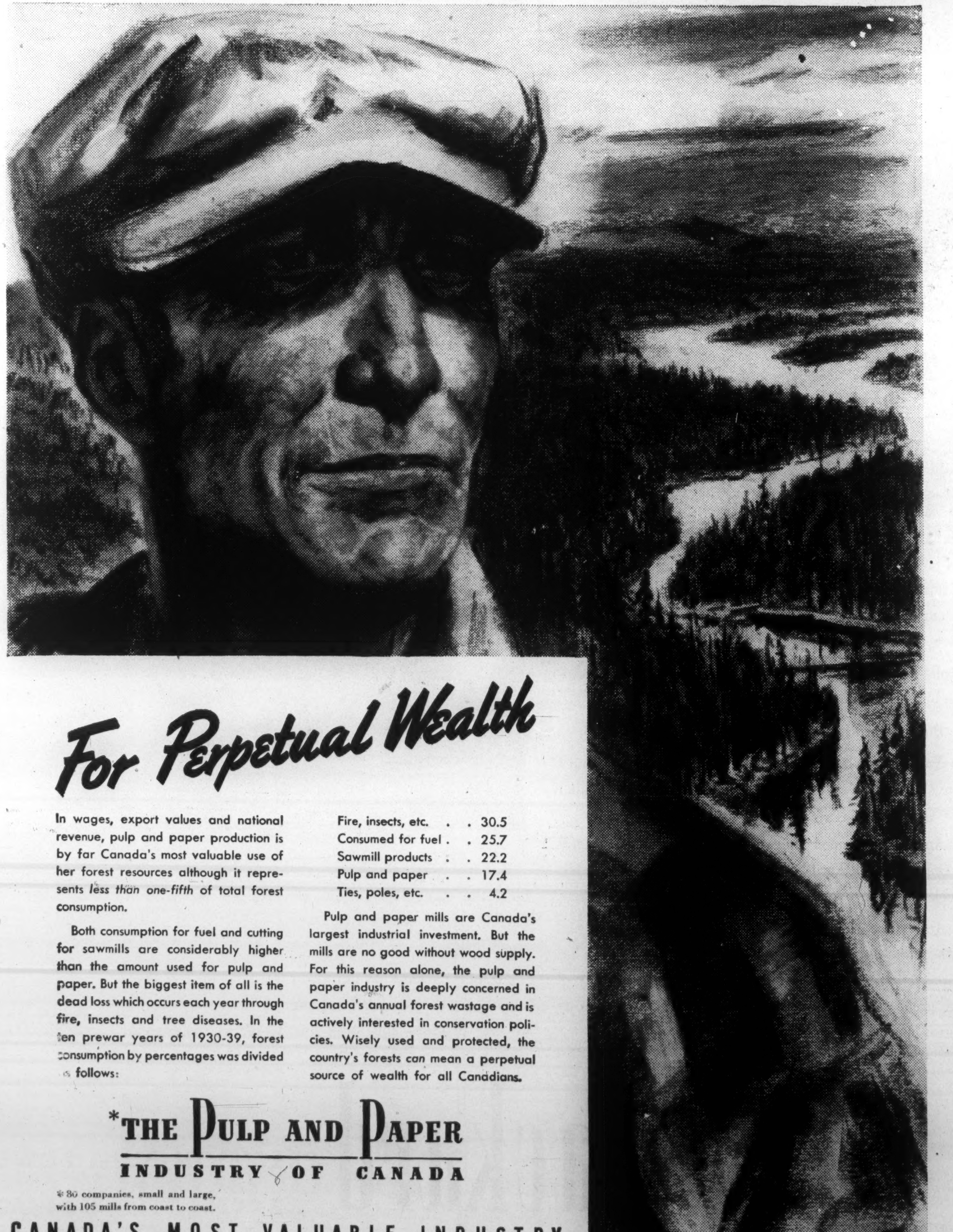
In short, if the vision of a "solid" Liberal Quebec has completely vanished, proportionately impairing their political prospects, it is still true that current betting would favor the Liberals winning from Quebec the largest number of out-and-out supporters. In addition they would be sure of finding a few Independents with Liberal views prepared to enter into a working arrangement with the federal Liberals in the Dominion House.

Clear Majority Unlikely

The only prophet I have encountered audacious enough at this distance to particularize about Quebec concedes several seats to the Progressive Conservatives, two or three to the C.C.F., one or two to the Labor-Progressives, and divides the remainder about equally between Liberals and Independents. On this basis the Liberals might count as a maximum on the support of about 30 seats from Quebec. To win a clear majority in the next Parliament they would then need to win 93 seats in the remainder of the country. This will really take some doing.

One is regretfully forced to the conclusion that in the absence of some quite revolutionary events in our political life in the next two or three months the chances of any party having a clear majority in the next House of Commons is small. Yet the problems which must be tackled by the House will call for a strong party, and one which is truly national in representation and policy.

There is no doubt that many of the conciliations and squirmings of the Liberal high-command, which have mystified some of its own supporters and given ample ammunition to its enemies, have arisen from an obstinate attempt to preserve in the Liberal party a united rallying-ground for the moderate Canadians in every area of Canada. This country is so centrifugal by nature that it requires constant endeavor to hold it together; and it would be a great tragedy if any one section or narrow interest came to hold the balance of power and attempted to thrust its doctrines upon the entire country.



For Perpetual Wealth

In wages, export values and national revenue, pulp and paper production is by far Canada's most valuable use of her forest resources although it represents *less than one-fifth* of total forest consumption.

Both consumption for fuel and cutting for sawmills are considerably higher than the amount used for pulp and paper. But the biggest item of all is the dead loss which occurs each year through fire, insects and tree diseases. In the ten prewar years of 1930-39, forest consumption by percentages was divided as follows:

Fire, insects, etc.	30.5
Consumed for fuel	25.7
Sawmill products	22.2
Pulp and paper	17.4
Ties, poles, etc.	4.2

Pulp and paper mills are Canada's largest industrial investment. But the mills are no good without wood supply. For this reason alone, the pulp and paper industry is deeply concerned in Canada's annual forest wastage and is actively interested in conservation policies. Wisely used and protected, the country's forests *can* mean a perpetual source of wealth for all Canadians.

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CANADA'S MOST VALUABLE INDUSTRY

The Soviet Is Ready For Eastern War

By MURRAY OULTON

Russia is prepared, Mr. Oulton says, and can step into action against Japan at a moment's notice. Her Far Eastern army has had intensive training and its supply is organized so as not to interfere with efficiency on the other front. By its mere presence on Japan's borders it is tieing up a million Japanese soldiers.

THE smashing Allied blows against the mainland of Japan underline the significance of the date, commented upon the world over, chosen for the San Francisco conference.

For April 25 is the date on which the Soviet-Japanese pact comes up for renewal. Will Moscow decide not to renew it, and, instead, help to administer the coup-de-grace to Japan?

Last November there were reports in circulation that Russia had decided to grant the Allies the use of Siberian bases. Then came Marshal Stalin's condemnation of Japan as an aggressor nation.

Only the future can tell whether hostilities will break out between Russia and Japan. That future may be uncertain, but what there is no doubt about is the fact that both potential protagonists have been lined up ready for any eventuality for a long time.

New **kind of "flying fish" in Burma:** the **balloon barrage guarding** a **pontoon bridge near Mandalay.**

What is more, Japanese militarists for years past have openly admitted their ambition to drive the Russians back as far as Lake Baikal, occupying the whole of the Maritime Provinces, the Buryat Mongolian Republic (U.S.S.R.) and Outer Mongolia.

Today Russia and Japan have a common frontier of over 3,000 miles. Formerly they had, apart from the 80 miles across the island of Sakhalin, a mere 11 miles of common boundary, along the River Tyumen on the Korean border.

Strained Relations

Relations were very strained between the two governments in 1938 and 1939, although not much news leaked to the outside world as to what was actually happening. But two Soviet soldiers, now famous marshals, were prominent in the operations, which were on the scale of a minor war. They were Marshal Zhukov, now on his way to Berlin, and the Chief Marshal of Artillery, Voronev, who has given the Red Army what are, perhaps, the most formidable guns in the world. During the troubles on the Soviet-Manchurian frontier his guns outfought the Japanese, just as they smashed the Mannerheim Line, the Nazi rings around Stalingrad and Leningrad, and the East Prussian defences.

It was in August, 1939, that Zhukov, in command of the Soviet forces, surrounded and destroyed the Japanese Sixth Army at Khalkin-Gol, on the borders of Outer Mongolia and Manchuria (Manchukuo). Military experts say that there, with masses of tanks, he employed blitzkrieg methods before the Germans did in Poland. By coincidence, he later destroyed another Sixth Army, that of the Germans before Stalingrad.

The present Commander-in-Chief of the Soviet's Far Eastern Army is General Apanasenko, a giant figure of a man who was born in a Cossack village between 50 and 60 years back. Apanasenko still wears a black Cossack cloak and fur hat. He is an expert on mountain warfare, and is a strict disciplinarian. He conducts manoeuvres under conditions as closely resembling those of actual warfare as possible.

How many men the Russians are maintaining in the East is not known. The figure has been put at a million, and the Japanese are compelled to keep just as many facing them. So immense are the Soviets' resources in manpower, however, that they have not had to deplete their Far Eastern Army in order to meet the demands of the German campaign.

The Russians claim that their Far Eastern Forces are completely self-contained. Every effort has been made to make them independent of supplies from the west of the Soviet Union. Siberia and the Far Eastern Provinces have every resource necessary for the conduct of war. Industrial progress has been on an impressive scale, and the Russians believe that the territory between Vladivostok and Khabarovsk, on the Amur, and which possesses much strategic importance, is an "invincible fortress."

Khabarovsk, which has grown from 40,000 to 140,000 in 10 years, is the headquarters of the Soviet Amur Flotilla, and it swarms with soldiers, sailors, and airmen. The city commands the confluence of the Amur and Ussuri, forming the eastern border between the Maritime Provinces and Manchuria.

They key port of Vladivostok is well-known, and the Russians have rendered its land approaches as impregnable as those of Leningrad proved to be. A number of fuelling and supply bases have also been developed, both south and north of Vladivostok. Others have been established on the coast of the great peninsula of Kamchatka, and in the Komandorski Islands, while all strategic points have been linked by a network of new roads.

Air bases lie thick all over the Soviets' Far East, so that whatever occurs, they are ready.

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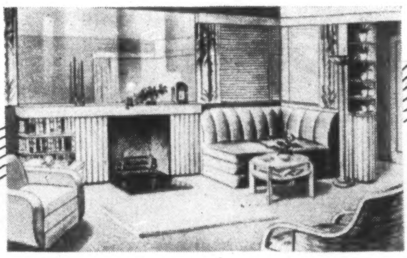

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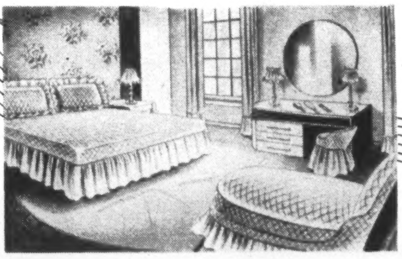

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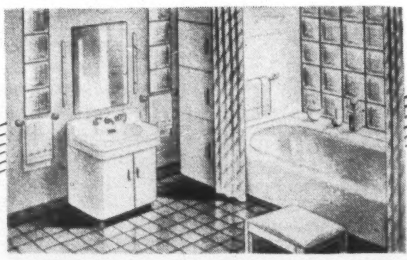

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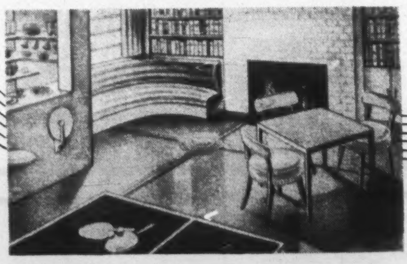

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THE LIGHTER SIDE

Just Consult the Supernatural If Ottawa Won't Tell You

By MARY LOWREY ROSS

MISS A. was at the telephone when I came in and she nodded to me absently and then returned to her conversation . . . "Absolutely. By the week-end I imagine. . . Well I got in sixty-five pounds just to be sure—forty of tea and twenty-five of coffee. . . No, but I imagine you'll have to hurry. . . Oh, wonderful, it's a shame to be in."

She hung up and leaning back began flexing her fingers. "Dialer's Cramp," she explained. "I've been telephoning since eight o'clock this morning."

"Would you mind telling me," I said, "what you expect to do with forty pounds of tea and twenty-five pounds of coffee?"

Miss A. said she intended to use what she needed herself. "And I don't imagine it will be hard to dispose of the rest of it," she added, "once the tea-and-coffee-rationing order goes through."

"That's a fine patriotic idea in wartime," I said.

Miss A. went back to her dialling. She got the wrong number and hung up. "There are times," she said, "when the true patriot feels it a duty to ignore the orders of petty bureaucracy."

"It isn't even an order yet," I pointed out, but Miss A. went on quickly, "Do you realize that we are living under a virtual dictatorship? Where does fine democratic feeling come in when a government will apply rations and controls without once consulting the public?'

"I suppose they figure that if they consult the public everybody will rush out to buy tea and coffee," I said. "That's what usually happens in a democracy. Just where did you hear about this tea and coffee rationing anyway?"

Miss A. paused, her finger crooked in the dial. "I don't suppose you believe in dreams?" she said after a moment.

"You mean to say you just dreamed it!" I said.

"EVERYBODY admits the prophetic element in dreams," Miss A. said patiently. "Take my own case, for example. Almost every time I dream about a person something happens to them — they fall down stairs or inherit money or hear about the death of a distant relative—I could give you scores of cases. Only last week for instance I dreamt about our pastor, Mr. Cogswell. I dreamt I was falling from a height and I kept calling to Mr. Cogswell and I couldn't make a sound. . . Well the very next week Mr. Cogswell came down with laryngitis and couldn't speak a word and his assistant had to take the services. How do you explain that?"

"You were probably sleeping on your back," I said. "What was your dream about tea-and-coffee rationing?"

"You wouldn't be interested," Miss A. coldly. She was too much impressed by her experience however to keep it to herself and after a little persuasion she told it to me. It was a rather confused account about being in a chain-store in which the manager turned out to be Donald Gordon who had insisted on her surrendering two car-tickets for a pound of minced shoulder steak. "Then instead of giving me my change he reached into the cash-register and brought out a cup of tea," Miss A. said, "and when I went to take it he knocked it right out of my hand. What do you make of that?"

"Do you mean to tell me that on the strength of that you rushed out and bought forty pounds of tea and twenty-five pounds of coffee?" I asked.

"Not entirely," Miss A. said. "As a matter of fact I've been having psychic warnings every few nights for the last six months. But this was different. It wasn't a dream really, it was more of a vision."

I considered. "Well if you've really got this psychic pipeline to the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, why don't you do something useful with it?" I asked. "Like, for instance, dreaming up a good practical system for rationing silk stockings."

Miss A. shook her head. "You don't understand," she said. "These things are beyond human control. Nobody knows where they come from or how they reach us. You just have to accept what comes to you when you have achieved the passive state."

IT WAS Miss A's dream I am now convinced that started the recent panic buying of tea and coffee. The rumor as it came back to me took a variety of forms. One informant said she had it directly from a neighbor whose cousin had been down to Ottawa and got the story from someone connected with a member of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. Another said that one of the executives of the Retail Grocers' Association had got tight at a party and let the story out. There was a rumor that a manager of one of the large chain-store groceries had read it between the lines of his monthly invoice, and a conflicting report that a cleaning woman had picked the memo out of the wastepaper basket in the offices of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. There were all sorts of rumors. By Saturday afternoon when I went down to the chain store to do my week-end shopping there were just two pounds of it left on the shelves. Just to be on the safe side I took them both.

On the day that the Wartime Prices and Trade Board's denial appeared in the paper I telephoned Miss A. "It looks as though you had got your psychic signals crossed," I said, "It says here that the rumor that started the panic tea and coffee buying was without foundation. The Wartime Prices and Trade Board says there's enough tea and coffee on hand to last the country a whole year."

"I don't believe it," Miss A. said instantly, "They're just making it up." It was unthinkable that a clear directive from the supernatural should be countermanded by an officious notice from Ottawa. "You'll see," Miss A. said, "They'll just lull us into a sense of false security and then sneak up on us with a rationing order."

THE other day I ran into Miss A. on the street. "Oh hello," I said, "had any interesting dreams lately?"

Miss A. shook her head. "As a matter of fact I haven't been sleeping. Last night I just tossed and turned the whole night."

"Too much tea and coffee," I said, and Miss A. agreed. "'You don't happen to need any tea or coffee at the moment do you?" she asked.

I said I had plenty of tea but I might help her out with a couple of pounds of coffee. "Anything will help," Miss A. said with a sigh, "That still leaves me with thirty-nine pounds of tea to drink and twenty-two pounds of coffee."

Yesterday she telephoned and her voice had recovered its old resilience. "I'm holding a Red Cross benefit in my apartment," she said. "You must come — everybody's coming. Wednesday afternoon from four to six. We're going to have a grocery raffle and I'm fixing up a booth in the dinette so I can tell fortunes with tea-leaves."

"I'll try to make it," I said.

"Don't forget!" Miss A. said. "Everybody ought to be able to make that much extra effort in wartime. I'm asking everyone to bring a cake or sandwiches and maybe something for the grocery raffle. I'm supplying all the tea and coffee."

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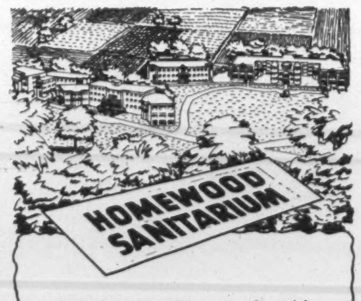

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Rocket Bomb Can Alter the Strategy of War

By PROFESSOR A. M. LOW

Is there any other method of combating V2—the rocket bomb—other than by air attacks on the launching installations? The R.A.F. and R.C.A.F. have done fine work but the mobility of the launching devices prevents it from being satisfactorily effective.

Here an authority discusses the developments which may one day counter the stratosphere rocket. A famed engineer and physicist, Professor Low has produced many inventions of importance to industry and national defence, and is the author of many scientific books. He served with the R.A.F. in the last war.

IT may be unpopular to say so at the moment, but it is my opinion that the rocket is destined to become one of the most important weapons ever designed.

Not now, probably not during the present war; but in ten years, rockets can alter the whole strategy of war. They bring armies within range at 200 miles. They imply that a warship no bigger than a destroyer can carry the armament of a modern battleship.

Rockets are not a German invention. There was, I believe, an English rocket unit at Waterloo, and rockets were used by Congreve at the siege of Boulogne.

What is new is the type developed by the enemy. It is an advanced weapon. It is mobile. Risks no expensively trained pilot and crew, requires no expensive materials, and can carry explosives which could not easily be placed in a shell. More important still, defence against it is exceedingly difficult.

The rocket bomb or V2 is in effect an enormous "gun" that needs no heavy emplacement, has no barrel to wear out, and possesses far greater range than any gun. It is also at present—fortunately—somewhat inaccurate.

In the nature of things defence against a weapon with these characteristics and a speed greater than sound, is anything but easy. But it is also true to say that no weapon has yet been invented to which a reply is impossible.

Defence Will Be Found

Again it is a matter of opinion, but I definitely consider that rockets can and will be countered by something better than waiting until we can overrun their firing points with armies.

In the first place, from the information about V2 we are permitted to learn, the missile has to be fired almost vertically in order to pass outside the 40-odd miles of atmosphere as quickly as possible.

Rockets are reaction machines and are only efficient *in vacuo*,—or a very attenuated atmosphere.

As a result, the whole mechanism has to be capable of working in air of changing density, and partial direction may have to be given to a gyro-device soon after the projectile has left its "discharge well."

Like the rocket, anti-aircraft gunnery is still almost in its infancy. It is only a few years since A.-A. guns fired "toy" shells, which were hopeless against high-altitude 'planes.

Modern range-finding methods may be excellent, but the speed of firing of relatively heavy calibre guns and the rate of laying them has not developed at the same pace.

Many automatic devices have been produced in which modern electronics play a vital part, but speeds of 2,000 m.p.h. demand new methods of gunnery altogether, and I doubt if the most up-to-date A.A. outfit is of any use against something like V2.

But not so the outfit of the future. Before long I expect to see rocket guns and new explosives which give immensely higher average velocities than have been considered possible.

New Artillery

I believe that quick firing *heavy* artillery is certain to come in the near future. I will go further and say that gun-laying and timing *during actual firing* is possible by a system of electrical control which may also train the weapon itself without human aid.

The point will be appreciated when it is remembered that rockets could be controlled *after* firing.

Admittedly, this calls for a new conception of artillery; but guns, as we know them today, will, in any case, be completely out-of-date in ten years' time. There has been little real change other than to increase the range by a few miles during the past half-century.

There is another interesting angle of research, concerned with the change of density undergone by the rocket's surroundings.

I do not say that there is any simple method of creating an obstacle to flight, but I would point out that at 1,000 m.p.h. and upwards the smallest resistance can have enormous effects.

Old-time flying men will remember how sand or the inevitable hairpin could cut off the blade of an airscrew when it was turning at 2,000 r.p.m.

A drop of water is a bullet at 2,000 m.p.m., and there may be more than one weapon produced on these lines. Fantastic as this may sound there are many methods of producing localized pressure.

Prejudice and preconceived notions must not be allowed to interfere with either defence or operation as far as V1 and V2 are concerned.

Must Appreciate Science

I know to my cost how bitterly difficult it can be to convince the academic mind when no precedent is ready-made. It was years, for instance, before the percussion cartridge was adopted in Britain, the home of its invention but not of its first use.

The same tale has become familiar as applied to tanks, high-explosives, and machine-guns.

In this war we have seen the enemy introduce magnetic mines, trailing bombs, aircraft to aircraft rockets, V1 and V2, and the jet-propelled fighter. Not one of these is a German invention.

The point is obvious to anyone who likes to look through the British patent records.

There is no question that rockets can be countered eventually. In the meantime, we can regard them as projectiles from guns and apply the defence of counter-battery fire.

There is no "defence" to ordinary artillery firing on an unfortified city in the sense of being able to divert the shells once they are in the air. But since the invention of artillery, the method of firing back at the guns has been used.

V2 requires only a highly mobile installation, but there is a period during which it is vulnerable on the ground.

There is litle doubt that the flight of V2 is considerably affected by the weather. Snow flakes are no longer "soft" when you fly into them at 2,000 m.p.h.

There may be possibilities for defence here. Many experiments in the creation of artificial weather were made before the war. They were regarded by "sober scientists" as even more fantastic than the idea of 200 mile rockets.

A reconsideration of them might change our ideas about the possibilities, as much as V2 has changed them about rocket possibilities.

V2 is too late to have the slightest final effects on the results of this war—which does *not* mean that weapons that can damage thousands of houses are of no military importance. Neither does it mean that we should consider the deep shelter as the only defence to V2. Effective defence may come too late for use in this war, but will be none the less important.

Meanwhile, the only optimistic thing I can say is that long-range rockets will have valuable applications in peacetime, whether for postal services, the study of cosmic rays, or the knowledge they can give of the upper atmosphere, as an aid to accurate long-distance weather forecasting.

• •

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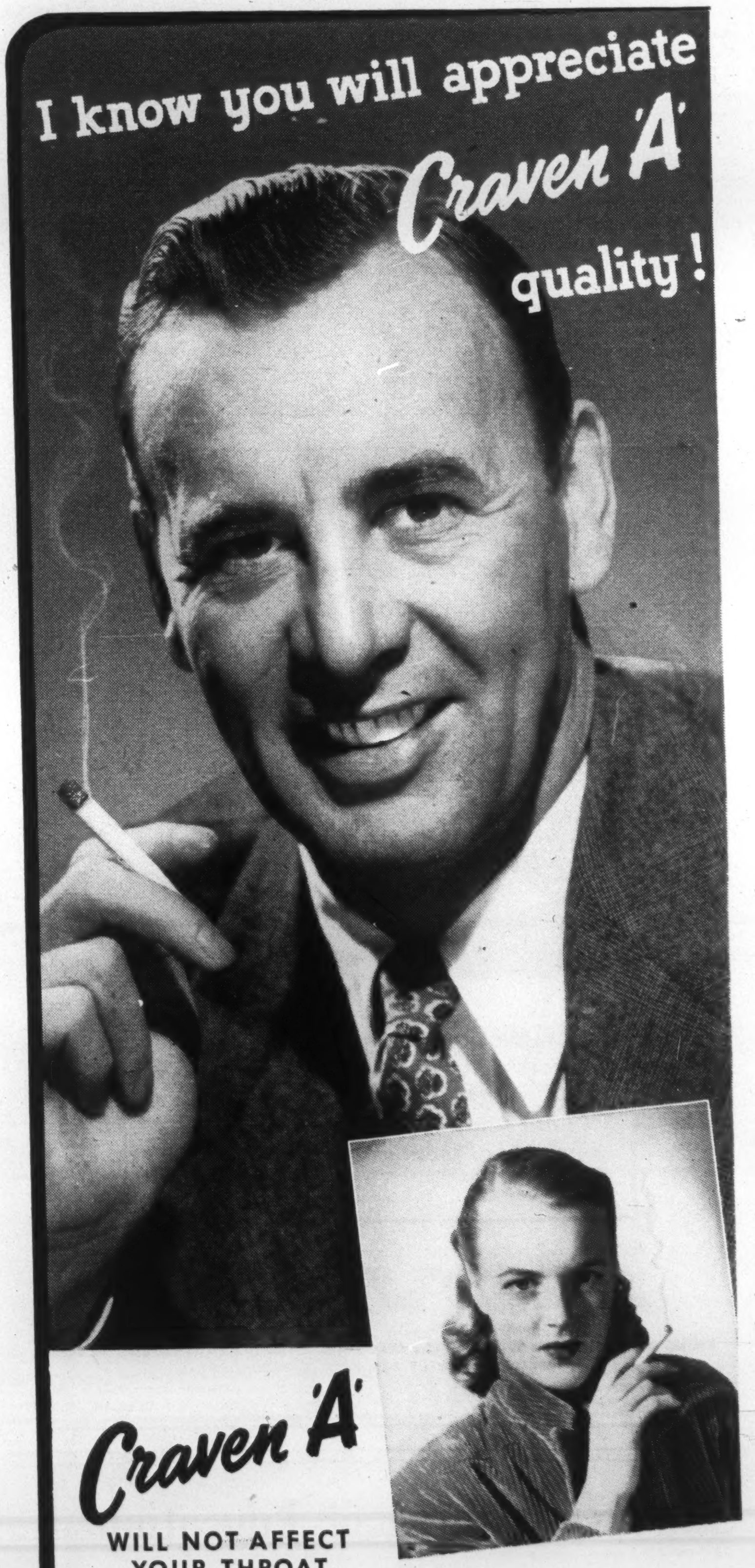
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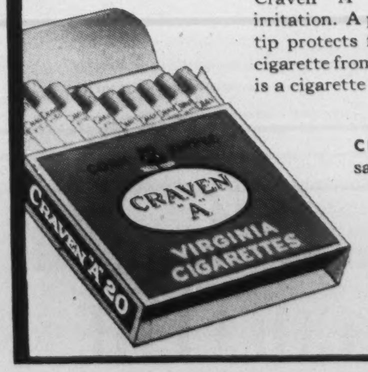

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THE HITLER WAR

Allied Strategy Aims to Thwart German Retreat to Fortress

By WILLSON WOODSIDE

HOUR by hour the news upsets any attempt to map out the strategic plan of the Germans or ourselves on the Western Front. The truth is, the Western Front is breaking up. Patton is already going anywhere he wants to. Hodges is breaking rapidly out of the confines of his Remagen bridgehead. And even Monty's operation, against the heavy end of what strength the Germans still have in the West, is making **faster progress** than anticipated on its southern, or Ruhr flank.

The slashing of at least one-third of the forces with which the German Command had planned to hold the Rhine, in the preliminary battles west of the river, and the drawing off of strength to the Eastern Front, made impossible the task of guarding such an extended front.

And the quick cracking of the river line in so many places seems to have finally convinced the German troops and civilians that this was the end and it was useless to fight on. The daily toll of surrenders is the best indication of the military situation in the West. On the day after Monty's crossing it reached 40,000. German radio appeals and threats to army stragglers to rejoin the nearest fighting unit became more and more frequent.

It is still fascinating, nevertheless, to try to figure just how we will go about finishing this groggy enemy, and what final manoeuvres he will attempt to retire his best troops into the last-ditch "fortress" positions which he has prepared, and of which we are getting more and more information, however reliable it is. And it would seem still wise to count on heavy fighting here and there, against the tougher German formations, notably in the Ruhr area.

Take the enemy's problem first. He has staked his utmost, right up to the present, on holding either side of the North German plain from a converging East-West attack. In the East he is putting up a strong fight on the Berlin-Stettin line. In the West he has concentrated his best troops to hold, first the approaches to the Rhine, and now the opening to the Westphalian plain, beyond the Rhine.

Also, of course, he is defending on one side the great Ruhr industries and on the other side, his biggest single industrial city, Berlin, for what production he is still getting from them. Once they are lost, large-scale mechanical warfare is automatically ruled out for him. Then he has to get his best troops and their equipment back to his prepared fortresses.

Evidence is increasing that he is counting on a stand in Norway, to the north, as well as in the mountains of Upper Bavaria and the Austrian Tirol. Much the largest fortress stand is planned for Southern Germany and Austria, and to supply this it seems that he will try to hold on to the industries of Bohemia, Southern Germany, Austria and Northern Italy as long as possible.

The Nihilists

Why the German leadership should want to make such a stand, at the cost of the almost total destruction of the Reich, can only be understood if you understand why Hitler sacrificed an entire army at Stalingrad, when he could have pulled it out in time.

There is, above all, the nihilistic urge which Rauschning has always insisted formed the inner core of Nazism. Hitler and his close supporters stand among the great destroyers of history. The panorama of the destruction of European civilization seems to fascinate them, and they are driven by a Satanic desire to see it completed. As long as fifteen years ago, according to Rauschning, Hitler contemplated this alternative to his complete triumph. "If I fail," he said, "I will bring all Europe down in flames with me."

There is, also, if German propaganda of the past months is any guide, the firm belief that the alliance of the Anglo-Americans with the "Bolsheviks" is an uneasy one—as uneasy as was their own arrangement with the Soviets in 1939-41. They hope that if they can only hold out half a year, or a year, rivalry between the Allies for control of Europe will give them a chance to play off East against West.

The Soviets could help spike this hope, and the German propaganda based on it, by giving less evidence that they do intend to have much their own way with the whole east and south of Europe, by installing Communist-dominated governments in country after country, excluding our correspondents, and severely limiting the activities of our diplomats.

Nothing To Lose

We have in no liberated country excluded the Communist Party from membership in the government, as the Soviets are excluding the liberal parties in Poland, Yugoslavia, Rumania and Bulgaria. Even in Greece the Communists were allowed a third of the cabinet seats, until they attemped to grab the whole show.

The final, impelling reason for a German last-ditch stand is the incrimination of the Nazi Party leaders, the Gestapo and SS, and many army officers and men in crimes for which, we have given them every reason to believe, they are due to be hanged or sent to forced labor. Resistance is better for them than giving in to such a certainty; and it is very German to go on hoping that "something might turn up."

After all, haven't a great many unexpected things "turned up" during this war. And some of them may entertain the final hope of escaping, by plane to Norway and by submarine from there, to some corner of the world; or filtering through our lines with faked papers to mingle with Europe's millions of homeless migrants.

So they intend to fight on. This is, indeed, not 1918 over again, as they affirm. That was a national war, carried on more or less according to centuries-old tradition. The loser, particularly the German, laying down his arms, could count on a traditional peace which would give him another opportunity later.

But the Germans—or the Nazi leadership and its accomplices, if you prefer—have made this, as Hitler himself called it, "a war between two

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worlds"; they have set themselves against civilization, made themselves outlaws. And they have been informed most explicitly that they will be treated as outlaws if they are caught, and that Germany will not be given another chance.

With their motives clear, what are their practical chances of accomplishing a strong last stand? This is their problem, that once they are convinced they can no longer hold the dikes against the tide pressing toward the North German plain from two sides, they must try to wheel back chosen elements of the forces defending Berlin-Stettin and the Ruhr, and draw them back to hold a front across Southern Germany, retreating from there slowly to the mountains.

Blocking the Retreat

They face two great difficulties in achieving this. Once they withdraw the better troops, the stiffening elements, from their main fronts in the north, there is every indication that the poorer quality troops and the pitiful conglomeration of the Volkssturm will give up the game. The dike will collapse, and the flood will roll through.

The other difficulty is that Allied strategy has undoubtedly taken into account the prospect of a German retreat to the south, and is framed to prevent it, if possible. There is the double drive by the Soviets into Moravia and Bohemia from Upper Silesia, and into Austria from the Budapest direction. And there is the even more sensational drive already well under way, led by the brilliant and impetuous Patton, to cut across the waist of Germany.

Until he is absolutely certain that there are no central German reserves left, and the German Command no longer has coordinated control of the situation, he must take some care of his flanks. But the chief brake on his advance is likely to be gasoline supply. It is quite clear that the whole central sector of the German Western Front is smashed, and has few defenders left.

The German First and Seventh Armies were almost totally eliminated in the double battle of the Eifel and the Saar-Palatinate. There remains only the Nineteenth Army, which retreated from the south of France last year, and which, one presumes, will be kept to guard the extreme southern wing of the front.

What We May Do

It may be assumed that Eisenhower, Bradley, Patton and Hodges, in their conference early this week, adapted their strategy to take advantage of this great opportunity. Hodges' First Army, perhaps supported by the new Fifteenth, and disposing of the "greatest tank power ever used on the Western Front", has broken out of the Remagen bridgehead to the south and east, evading the German Fifth Panzer Army which had been trying to contain the northeastern perimeter.

One would expect to see this force, after joining solidly with Patton's Third in the Frankfort area, swing up to the northeast, say on the superhighway to Kassel, to throw a screen around the southern and eastern exits of the Rhine-Ruhr front, helping to trap and eliminate that chief remaining German defence force on the Western Front. Liquidation of the enemy must always be a first objective. And capture of the Ruhr is a strong secondary motive.

Patton, supported by Patch's Seventh and part of the French First Army, who have crossed at Karlsruhe, would then be free to strike straight into the heart of Germany. I had thought up to now that he would make for a junction with Konev, in the Leipzig-Chemnitz area. But with the enemy disintegration progressing so fast, it now seems that he could take an even bolder course.

He could strike for Nuremberg, Regensburg and down the Danube towards Linz, for a junction with the powerful offensive of Tolbukhin and Malinovsky, now beating against the borders of Austria from the other side. Secure along the Upper Danube, he would be in a position to prevent the retreat of all Germans from the strong fronts in Moravia, Bohemia, Silesia and Saxony into the "South German Fortress."

Such a move could shorten the painful mopping-up phase of the German War by months. The full-scale phase may well be over in a few weeks, if the main Russian armies strike soon, as expected, from the east.

Still held up by tenacious German resistance along the Oder estuary from Stettin southwards, they may nevertheless be counted on to break across the river north of Berlin and drive for a junction with British armor somewhere on the North German plain, perhaps on the Elbe around Wittenberg.

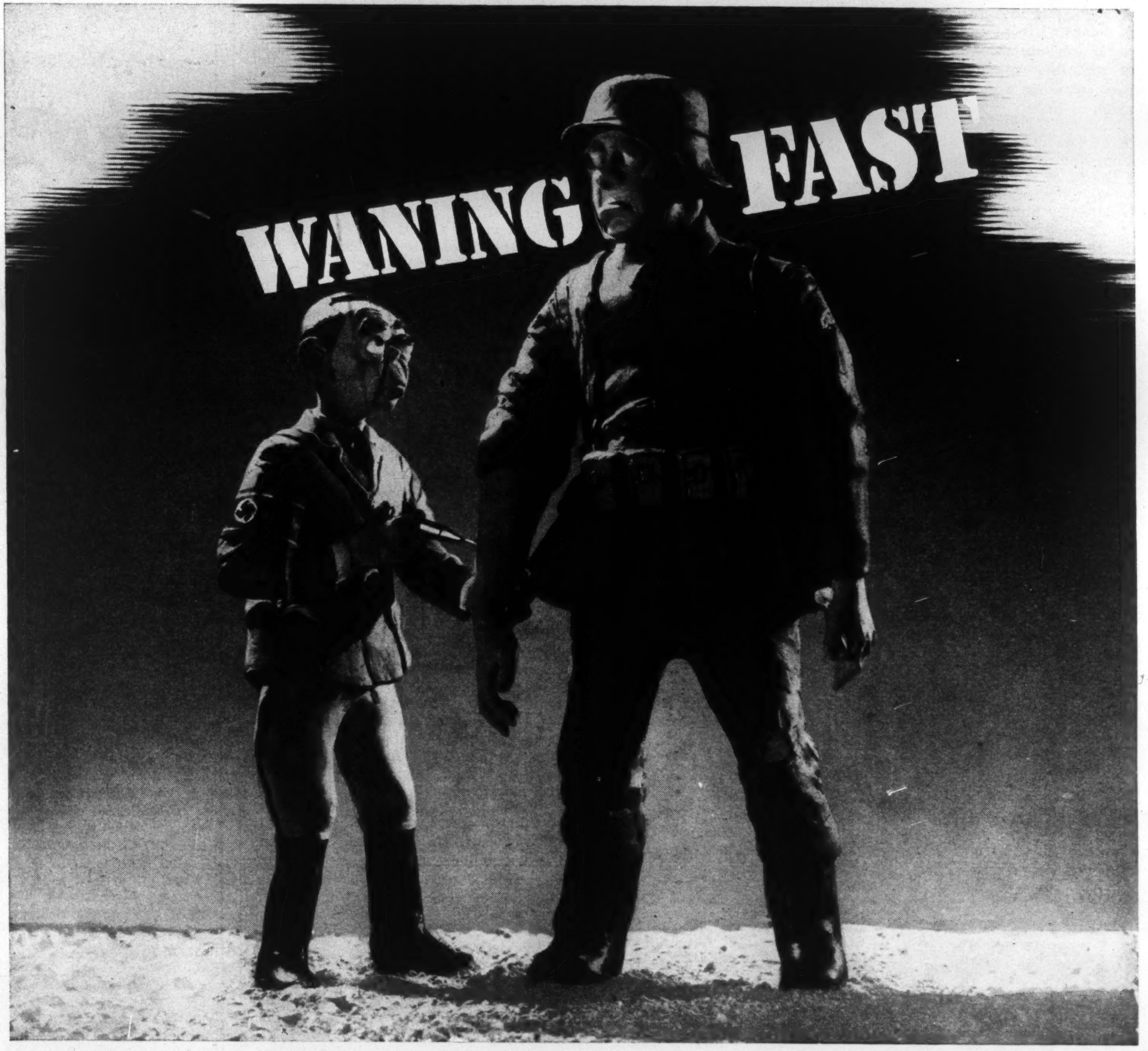
This brings us back again, full circle, to Monty's operation on the lower Rhine. He is meeting stern opposition on his left flank, where, as luck would have it, the Canadian Third Division is operating. The Germans seem to have expected the crossing further north than it came, and had massed their forces around Emmerich. As a result, the American Ninth Army, on the right flank, is finding softer going, along the northern fringes of the Ruhr.

The situation seems to call for a swing to the northeast by the British Second Army, pivoting on the Canadians, to seal off the German concentration around Emmerich and all German forces remaining in Holland. It takes no great exercise of the imagination to see O'Connor's armor of the British Second, and the British, Polish and Canadian armored divisions of the Canadian First Army, streaking off for Emden, Bremen, Hamburg and Lubeck.

An objective of this drive must be to prevent any considerable forces retreating from the Stettin front through the bottleneck of the Jutland Peninsula, and from there to Norway. There is considerable evidence accumulating of plans for a second "fortress" stand in Norway. Although some divisions have been transferred from there to Germany, it is notable that in this hour of supreme need, Norway has not been evacuated.

Instead, the garrison has been fully replenished by the arrival of Rendulic's army from Finland. The remaining units of the German Baltic Fleet are being transferred to Norwegian bases, along with some 300 U-boats and many small torpedo craft.

Obviously the quantity of supplies needed for a long stand in the northern and southern fortresses must strictly limit the number of troops which can be maintained in them. The German leaders will have earmarked only their best for this final resistance. Can they pull these out of the fighting fronts in time, without causing a total collapse? And can we thwart their moves in the vast battle of annihilation now opening?



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We're Off!! To Social Security Confusion

By CHARLOTTE WHITTON, C.B.E.

We haven't an over-all security plan and we should have one, Dr. Whitton says, before we embark on family allowances. It is not too late to reconsider our whole welfare position and decide, on a sound basis, what can and should be done now, and who, Dominion or Provinces, should do it.

As the concluding note in this, the last in her series on social security, Dr. Whitton suggests a scientific analysis, by leading actuaries, economists and social scientists, of our possible needs and our probable capacity to carry them, covering a period of a generation at least.

CANADIANS have been neither negligent nor niggardly in their attempt to reinforce what is the second highest standard of living in the world with decently humane welfare provisions. These cost $250 millions annually in the immediate pre-war years and parallelled an outlay of $165 to $170 millions on education, all but a small percentage of which was at the public cost. Because the growth has been slow and covers a long period of years, their breadth and effectiveness are not fully appreciated.

Particularly extensive has been the evolution of the Social Utilities, in part because these accord so naturally with the peculiar needs of Canada. In the field of Health Services, actually protecting or serving the citizen and the community, stand the full-time health departments of all nine provinces and of the larger municipalities, the magnificent county health units of Quebec and their extending counterparts in Nova Scoita and the West. The Victorian Order of Nurses, nearing the fiftieth year of its service, brings bedside care to almost 100,000 persons a year, charging full, partial or no fee as the situation warrants. Through our 900 hospitals, over a million patients are treated annually, 60,000 to 70,000 being in care at any one time, the hospitalization of those actually ranking high in world standards. Twenty thousand patients pass each year through our 40 tuberculosis sanitaria; 45,000 to 50,000 are sheltered in our 60 mental institutions. On any given day 17,000 adults, 40,000 children, will be under supervision in our 470 charitable and benevolent institutions, our corrective agencies will be handling 4,500, our penal institutions 12,000 to 13,000. Day nurseries, community centres, settlement houses, playgrounds, recreational facilities, family counselling and auxiliary court services fill the interstices and complete a reasonably well-rounded whole in the larger urban and in some county areas.

In the provision of Social Assistance two specialized categories preceded, by some years, the extension of the same coverage in all the United States. These are the payment of $9½ millions annually in allowances to 2,700 mothers and 70,000 children in necessitous circumstances in all the provinces but Prince Edward Island, and the payment of over $125 millions annually in allowances to some 190,000 aged, and 6,500 blind in all nine provinces. Other Assistance payments in Canada rest with the municipal authority, under either optional or obligatory provincial provision or (in six of the provinces) with the province itself if the need arises in unorganized territory.

We Weren't So Backward

Unemployment Assistance is too recent and drear a memory to requite enunciation of the varying and erratic bases on which the Dominion shared with the provinces and through the provinces with the local authorities from 1930 until 1941. Suffice it to say, however, that Canada was no more unprepared than the United States for the disastrous burdens and the need of human service that developed in those years. If the integration of our services and provisions lagged behind theirs from 1935 onwards, we had more adequate Dominion aid from 1930, while they lacked it, and our provincial and municipal services reflected considerable development through those years.

At the start of the depression not two provinces and only half a dozen cities had fully organized welfare administrations but by war's onset all but New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island had substantial developments under way. The conflict's pressures have accelerated the pace and today there are full ministries everywhere but in "the Island", which is not typical.

Social Insurance

In the area of Social Insurance, there has been but one venturing, the enactment, by provincial agreement and amendment of the British North America Act, of the Unemployment Insurance Act in 1940, along lines closely comparable to the repealed Employment and Social Insurance Act 1935, found ultra vires by the Privy Council in 1937. It and the Employment Services, therewith transferred, are under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Dominion and located with the Ministry of Labor.

Even where an evident cause of dependency seems susceptible to insurance, the broken working year of so much Canadian production intervenes to question the solvency of measures, based on individual occupational deductions. Beveridge predicted all his planning on a 48 week working year. The actual legislation, now brought down by the British Government, contemplates 50 contributions a year or a normal working year of 50 weeks for all covered thereby. The Canadian picture is very different with more than 30 per cent of our people with less than 40 weeks in their normal working year.

The Present Situation

Beyond the largely abortive general powers of the Dominion Health Department set up in 1919, events have thrown up a trend in principles. All the Social Utilities and Assistance responsibilities, through the years, have been and are vested in the provinces, and are administered directly by them, or in the municipalities subordinate to them, or by the voluntary services — the province co-operating with either or both. One result is that the services, of course, are neither uniform, nor even in development or standard. Nor do they not accord with any general over-all plan. They resemble a patch-work, as between and sometimes within the provinces, and the underlapping or overlapping is a real, if decreasing, problem. On the other hand, with maturity of administration, they are showing an adaptability, according remarkably well with the varying needs of the people and areas served. They exhibit ingenious flexibility, even within provinces as, for instance, between the child protection services of Halifax and Cape Breton's outer fringes, Toronto's highly specialized resources and Thunder Bay's generalized programme or Vancouver's diversified services and the unified administration of the B.C. Interior.

Peculiarly characteristic of Canada, a growth in part from Catholic tradition, is the close, and, at times, inseparable association of voluntary religious and philanthropic endeavor in most of our welfare services. Public inspection, statutory regulation, public subsidy but, essentially, citizen management, with full-time technical staff, are inalienable features of much of our hospitalization, nursing, child care and protection systems. Our family welfare is preponderantly under private auspices.

Canada lacks neither principles, policies, nor proven practices in her health and welfare developments. No one of the provinces now is without a fairly well-envisaged, long-term plan for the strengthening of existing resources and their extension to assist under-served areas and unserved or inadequately served groups. Most of the provincial plans contemplate local administration in strong metropolitan and county areas, provincial direction in small rural hinterland or unorganized districts. But the inadequacy and uncertainty of financing have held back development of both schemes and personnel. Were reasonable assurance available on the costs, there is not a province which could not have extensive health and welfare developments in process, under experienced staff and with full

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The costs of the Social Utilities and Assistance have rested with the Provinces with Dominion financial aid for the aged, blind, and able-bodied unemployed. Insurance alone has accrued to the Dominion. In a country of Canada's extent and character such separation is commended by most practical considerations since the Utilities and Assistance, given on the basis of actual service and need, may vary with every individual but Insurance is automatically payable within the terms of contract. The Beveridge, British, Russian and Scandinavian planning of recent years have all attached great importance to keeping these distinctions. Insufficient attention has been given in our welfare discussions to the possible advantages of having developed them under separate jurisdictions.

Part Prejudices Whole

This is one reason why (whatever the particular piece of legislation, or the merits of cash, or service, or kind, or a combination of all three in any specific provision) the wisdom is debatable of the Dominion departing from the administrative detachment that has hitherto restrained it, except as an emergency measure, from direct issuance of aid in any form to civilians within a province. When this departure flows down and through a new and exclusively Dominion welfare set-up, the development is bound to be cause for complications. Confusion will increase as this Dominion framework mixes itself in local voluntary effort, and appoints advisory, administrative and judicial bodies within municipalities and provinces. This will prejudice the whole consideration of a complete well-integrated Dominion-provincial program of welfare security — Insurance, Assistance and Utilities, and collaborating Work and Placement facilities — in the bias of over-riding Dominion policy, program and finance. The constitution of a Dominion Ministry and the implementing of any Dominion child cash grants might well have awaited, as in Britain, the enunciation of a complete and mature plan for all-round welfare provisions. Each element therein would be clearly set forth in all its social population, constitutional and financial implications, with definite assignment of its different parts to respective jurisdictions.

This calls first for ascertaining to what level of "slack" in gainful occupation it would be safe to gear Canada's welfare planning. It is dishonest and dangerous to ignore the fact that modern scientific ingenuity has not, as yet, caught up with its own displacement of human powers. It is equally so to maintain that constant economic and other change will not create, from time to time, reserves of the temporarily idle or that some slack must not always be available to keep the mechanism of work supply from snapping in sudden tensions. The task is to see that the slack is reasonable, not persistent or extended, and that responsibility for those left idle from time to time, is carried as a necessary and recognized part of the whole structure. The British White Paper is built on gearing production and responsibility to a maximum unemployment of 8½ per cent. Some comparable index should be explored and set as a minimum Canadian mark, which we would resolve to better.

Building a Canadian Plan

From that starting point, as scientific analyses as Canadian actuarial, economic, and social science thinking can evolve should be undertaken to indicate, over the period of a generation at least, our possible needs and our probable capacity to carry them. To such a non-partisan, technical body of inquiry, with each province participating, not only the child bonus but all existing schemes would be referred. For instance, at the moment, countering bids are mounting in offers of aid for the aged with little or no attention to the fact that, partly as a by-product of the heavy immigration of 1900-11, disturbing changes have been taking place in the ageing of the Canadian population. In 1941, 102 per 1,000 of the population were over 60 years of age, compared with 75 per 1,000 in 1921. The vigorous age group, coming along to support this mounting percentage of older customers, is shrinking. Only 182 per 1,000 of the population were under 10 years in 1941, where there were 240 in 1921. The next two decades thus promise heavy increasing burdens in Canadian social provisions, even at present rates of aid.

The basic decisions now before us are greater and more far-reaching than the acceptance or rejection of one unrelated welfare item. They are the return of the buoyancy of self-confidence to the Canadian people through some practical evidence of the hope of actual maintenance of high gainful occupation; selection of what part of the national income can be most justly redistributed in generally available social utilities; what protection against need is most practically met by Assistance, what by Social Insurance; where should jurisdiction in each field most effectively rest, and what constitutional or fiscal adjustments or both should be made to render those units of government best equipped for each, financially competent to assume and discharge these responsibilities.

Not Too Late

It is not too late for such a statesmanlike reconsideration. The will and way to co-operation could be developed. Then it might be possible to realize the consummation, discussed in the Privy Council judgment, January 23, 1937, on the Natural Products Marketing Act. This was the premise that, since the Provinces and the Dominion between them possessed a "totality of complete legislative authority," it might be possible "to combine Dominion and provincial legislation so that each within its own sphere could in cooperation with the other achieve the complete power of regulation which is desired."

Canada has pioneered admirably in many constitutional developments; she might open yet wider vistas in central-local relations in a federal state. The principle of a permanent Dominion-Provincial mechanism, advanced in the Sirois-Dafoe Report, might be developed to provide a Dominion-Provincial board and secretariat, representative of the Dominion, each of the Provinces and the voluntary welfare services. With it would rest the function of review, advice and recommendation of Dominion aid to provincially developed plans and programs in the whole field of the Social Utilities and Social Assistance. Beyond examination of submissions and general administrative and financial audit even this Dominion-Provincial Board would respect the complete autonomy of each province within this field.

Social Insurance projects, on the other hand, might be vested within a Dominion-Provincial board, similarly constituted with its respective appointees named for a fixed period of years. They would include co-opted representatives of major occupational groups covered. It would be entirely a collecting and disbursing agent, but, within the full contractual limits of the social insurance plans entrusted to it, its administration would be complete, autonomous and nation-wide. It would operate no welfare services whatever; merely collect, retain and administer all payments made under any prepayment, social savings or insurance schemes, based on individual savings deductions.

Then, when we had definitely before us scientific analyses of our probable needs and resources, the commitments which we are asked to accept should be clearly set out annually, as in Swedish practice. This would mean for Canada, the presentation to Parliament of the General Budget, the Insurance Budget, and the Utilities and Assistance Budget, separately thus permitting a more precise judgment, by Parliament and people alike, on the provision and efficacy of all measures of social protection.

Reconsideration of preconceptions, projects and plans in their social provisions is to the fore in Australia, New Zealand and the United States, and, of course, are in the statutory stage in Britain. There have been substantial changes in the Russian set-up twice since 1937. What the New York *Times* urged in a recent editorial might, with profit, be applied to Canada, now standing before complicated and bewildering paths:

> "An over-all examination of our entire social security system and its relationship to other phases of public policy is urgently required. An impartial commission should be appointed immediately to study the entire matter. Such a group of experts could indicate the deficiencies of the present system and the groups to which it should be extended. In particular it could determine the cost of such an expanded program. In too many reports these costs have been given insufficient attention."

Whatever Canada's ultimate plan may be it should place first the purpose of so sustaining gainful occupation and its returns as to assure a self-supporting population. The "first instalment on social security" should surely be something more stimulating than an over-all subsidy because we believe that we cannot make the wage and price structure adequate to sustain even the family of moderate size found in four out of five Canadian homes.

NOTE:—Since publication of the third article in this series, that on Provincial Revenues, an item has been released in Ottawa, March 9, 1945, giving certain details, as yet incomplete, as to how the income drawbacks may work but no final official statement has yet been made. The release is complicated and, in detail but not in totals, appears to be different from that used for calculations in this article. Its application *might* change the actual but not the relative net of the Provinces since the drainbacks will accrue to the Dominion's advantage. Only actuarial study of data, not even departmentally available at present could establish the actual payments and rebates involved. The effect of using these other bases, if any, would be to increase the "gain" of the creditor provinces and decrease the loss of the debtor ones with the possible transfer of Alberta, now on the border, to the former. Ontario, British Columbia and Manitoba would still remain heavily "down", the first two provinces by many millions, as previously indicated. C. W.

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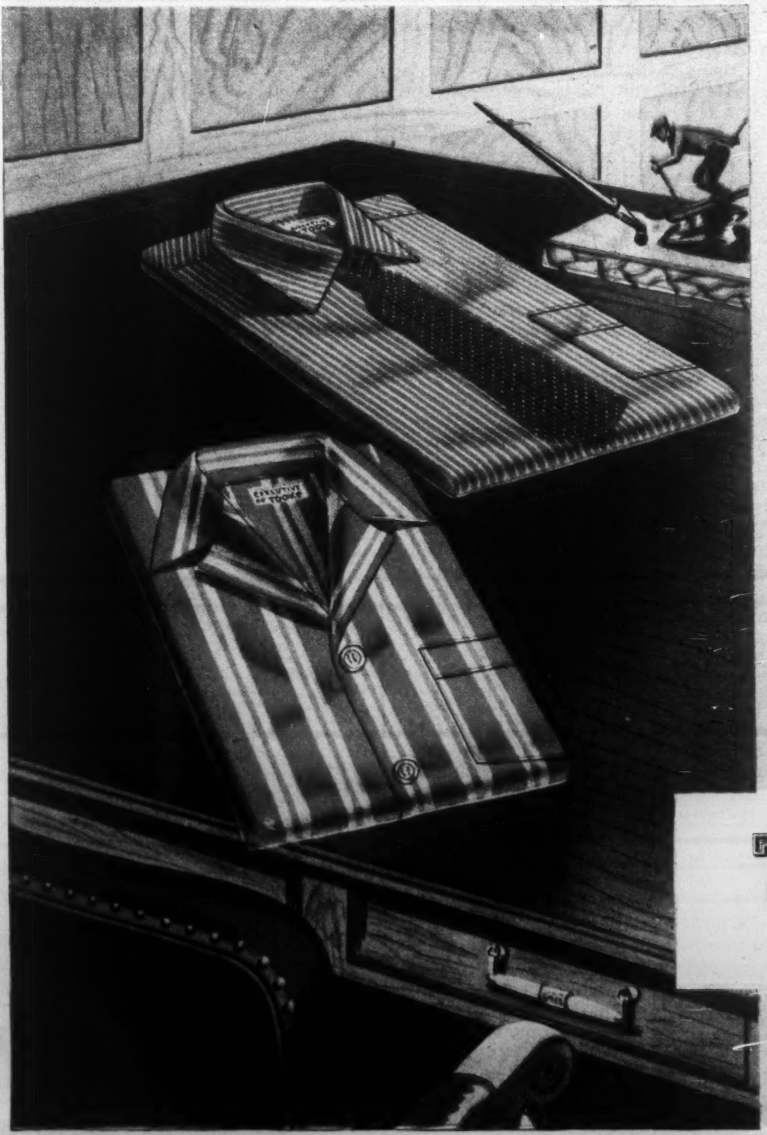

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Not Even Lemons Left To Chance at Yalta

By JOHN RHODES

Mr. Rhodes writes one of the few descriptive stories of the Crimea Conference.

The Russians outdid even their traditional reputation for hospitality. Moscow's hotels were stripped of waiters and waitresses were equipped with high heels. Furniture and curtains were also brought in for the occasion.

Mr. Churchill in the spirit of cordiality took a stab at a few words of Russian . . with results that added to the gaiety of nations.

MUCH has been told of the political work at the Yalta Conference, but little has been told of the astonishing background. Let me tell some personal stories which reveal the atmosphere in which the world was being reshaped.

While Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt were making their long journey to the Black Sea, Marshal Stalin from Moscow was weaving a magic spell over Yalta. In the midst of a war-scarred countryside, where only the empty shells of Czarist palaces remained, he created in a few weeks a new city of traditional Russian splendour.

The palaces which had become sanatoria and rest homes for Russian workers after the revolution had been looted by the Germans. The great Livadia Palace, summer home of Czar Nicholas II., had been so thoroughly stripped that of all the furniture and furnishings only two pictures were left.

Those two pictures were placed in President Roosevelt's bedroom. And from Moscow and the great cities of Russia came furniture and curtains and drapings to turn the Livadia into a palace fit for a President.

Hotel Staffs Imported

When the buildings were refurnished and equipped, a sudden order came to Moscow's two chief hotels. The waiters were told to pack immediately and be prepared to go away for three weeks. The hotels had to carry on as best they could with scratch-staffs, and the waiters were taken down to Yalta to attend on the big conference staffs.

Moscow waitresses were also called in. They were fitted out with new high-heeled shoes, and it was evident from the way they walked that some of the girls were wearing high heels for the first time.

So that no comfort should be lacking, a large draft of Moscow barbers was also pressed into service and taken to Yalta.

Three days before the conference began the Crimea had been swept by a blizzard; but it was in lovely spring weather, in cool, crisp air, that the delegates were driven in cars along the 105 miles of road from the airfield to Yalta.

At 50-yard intervals along the whole route stood soldiers on guard. At bends and crossroads traffic control girls from Moscow, dressed in smart uniforms and armed with carbines, stood to attention with set, serious faces and saluted every car as it passed.

Through parks and woodlands bright with the first snowdrops and mimosa blooms of spring, the senior members of the British delegation were driven to the Alupka Chateau.

This was an apt choice, for the chateau, built in a mixture of Gothic and Moorish styles, was designed by an English architect named Blore.

It was built for Prince Vorontsov in 1837 at a cost of some $1,200,000. From the large Moorish archway in the southern wall of the chateau a wide flight of steps, flanked by six marble lions, leads down to the park, which is planted with rare sub-tropical plants and magnificent cypresses.

Mr. Churchill, Mr. Eden, the Chiefs of Staff (Admiral Sir Andrew Cunningham, Field-Marshal Sir Alan Brooke and Air Chief Marshal Sir Charles Portal), Lord Leathers, Field-Marshals Alexander and Wilson were among those who lived in the chateau itself, and all the British meetings were held there.

Britain in the Library

The Alupka Chateau had been spared by the Germans because it had been reserved by Field-Marshal von Manstein as his postwar summer home. Even the large library had been preserved. There one of the delegates found a copy of "Famous Houses of Hampshire", in which he was able to show the British First Sea Lord a description of his home at Bishops Waltham.

Minor members of the British delegation were put up in two large sanatoria, which had been used as holiday homes for Russian workers. In pre-war times star workers were given free railway tickets to Yalta and lodged in the homes at Government expense. They were given everything except beds, which they had to bring themselves.

The two sanatoria were a mile and a half and four miles away from the Alupka Chateau. One was converted into offices, dining rooms and a bar. The other was turned into dormitories.

The only slight inconvenience at Alupka was the lack of bathrooms. There were only two and hot water was scarce. But that is where the Moscow barbers came in. They moved in like shock shaving troops to keep the British in trim.

Cordiality and Tobacco

The total British staff numbered 180, and the American 250. The Americans were housed at Livadia, the Czar's summer palace, which was finished only three years before the start of the 1914 war.

President Roosevelt was given the billiard room as a private dining-room, and it was here, in an atmosphere of cordiality and tobacco smoke, that the Big Three had many of their informal off-the-record chats.

General Marshall slept in the Czarina's bedroom, a magnificent apartment on the second floor, with an outsize window overlooking the sea.

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ASSETS—January 1st, 1945		
Cash on deposit—Banks and Trust Companies		$1,037,926.79
Bonds and Stocks—Canadian Insurance Department Valuations		5,758,929.10
Interest Accrued		28,124.66
Balances Payable by Agents		378,949.86
Balances Payable by Reinsurers		163,354.34
Real Estate for use by Company		107,865.62
		$7,475,150.37
LIABILITIES—Offsetting		
Reserve for Foreign Exchange		$ 33,291.14
Reserve for Taxes		90,852.28
Reserve for Expenses due and accrued		7,729.08
Reserve for Contingent Commissions to Agents		42,384.76
Payable for Dividend declared for Shareholders		80,000.00
Reserve for Risks in Force— Canadian Insurance Department Standard		1,825,159.88
Reserve for Losses under adjustment		1,064,656.29
Funds of Reinsurers, held under agreements		448,075.21
Reserve for Non-Registered Reinsurance		518,795.75
Reserve for possible depreciation of Bonds, Stocks, etc.		100,000.00
CAPITAL (Fully Paid)	$2,000,000.00	
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Admiral King, head of the U.S. Navy slept in the Czarina's boudoir.

James F. Byrnes, Director of the U.S. Office of War Mobilization, had one of the many bedrooms of the Czar. The Czar was so frightened of being assassinated that he changed rooms every night. Sometimes he went from one room to another in the middle of the night. Marshal Stalin told Mr. Byrnes, with a grin, that the only place one could be certain of finding the Czar was in the bathroom first thing every morning.

There was another joke at the Czar's expense which also amused Marshal Stalin. His eyes used to twinkle when he looked at the carved lion-head arm rests on the marble benches outside the main door. The architect Krasnov was so exasperated by the Czar's whims and interference when he was building the palace that he made these lion heads into caricatures of the Czar himself.

Interpreter Puzzled

Marshal Stalin and the Russian delegation lived at Koreiz, an estate which once belonged to Prince Yusupov who killed Rasputin.

In these pleasant settings of walks of cypress and yew, between snow-capped hills and a smiling blue sea, the conference began. Only a few miles away the utterly ruined cities of Sebastopol and Simferopol blasted and battered into rubble, were the grim reminders of the war the Big Three had come to finish.

Mr. Churchill whose vigorous assaults on the French language are well known had carefully "mugged up" a few words of Russian which he spoke to Marshal Stalin.

The Marshal beamed and looked inquiringly at the official interpreter. But the interpreter was completely baffled. He did not know what the Prime Minister had said. He was afterwards heard explaining to a colleague that he "only knew English and Russian".

But in spite of the language difficulty Mr. Churchill and Marshal Stalin got on famously together. They could be seen walking together in the narrow ravine-like paths which run between the dark yews and cypresses in the grounds of Livadia—Marshal Stalin in heavy military great-coat and grey-green army forage cap smoking his bent pipe or cigarettes; Mr. Churchill in a light-colored British warm with a colonel's pips on the shoulder worn over an air commodore's uniform, his cigar firmly clenched in his mouth, his hands behind his back holding the now-famous Volga cap.

After they had paced for some time among the winding paths they would enter the palace, and in Mr. Roosevelt's private dining-room would come upon the President holding an informal chat with Mr. Stettinius.

Formal meetings of the full conference were held in the Imperial ballroom and banqueting hall at Livadia, which one awed delegate described as so big "you can hardly see the end of it".

Answer, a Lemon Tree

Each of the Big Three gave a dinner party—and the Moscow waiters could not understand why the British wanted to go to bed before midnight, instead of keeping it up in Russian style to the small hours.

Food throughout the conference was first class. Much of it was specially flown from Moscow. Champagne and vodka were plentiful. And just how much the Russian hosts were willing to do to make their guests comfortable was shown when a British officer asked a waiter for a lemon to flavor champagne cocktails.

When others followed his example, it was found that there were only three lemons on the premises, so instead they used tangerine oranges. But that did not satisfy the Russians. Two days later a lorry arrived. In the lorry, under protective coveings, was a huge tree. It was carefully unloaded and planted in one of the conservatories. It was a lemon tree bearing hundreds of lemons in perfect condition, and it had been brought the hundreds of miles from Georgia.

Some young Russian officers searched the ruins of the nearby towns until they found a building where they could hold a small private dance. Mr. Churchill's daughter Sarah, the President's daughter, Mrs. Boettiger, and U.S. Ambassador Harriman's daughter, who were at the conference as secretaries to their fathers, were three of the guests.

They reported afterwards: "We knew the Russians loved dancing, but we didn't know until now how much!"

In the closing days of the conference the Russians took the delegates out on sightseeing tours. They visited the battlegrounds of Sebastopol and the Chekov Villa above Yalta, where the famous Russian author spent the last four years of his life.

Military Lecture

The villa was turned into a national museum, and Chekov's sister, who is still living in the village there prevented the Germans from looting the chief treasures. When she was asked how she managed to preserve the villa, when every town and village for miles around had been robbed and ruined, she merely shrugged.

At Sebastopol members of the British delegation called on the Russian general in command. They were shown into a room with a number of hard, straight-backed chairs on which they were invited to sit. They were then given a lecture on the siege and fall of Sebastopol. Lecturing and listening to lectures is one of Russia's chief pastimes.

At Balaclava the delegates were shown the scene of a great tank battle in this war. The whole battlefield has been cleared up, and except for an occasional shell hole there is hardly a trace of war.

Time and again the visiting delegations were struck by the fact that in spite of the devastation and ruin all around, the people of the Crimea looked fine and healthy.

One of the American delegation made a wisecrack about the mountains of documents, books, maps, and notes which the British delegation brought to the conference.

"Yes," said one of the British Ministers, "we left Whitehall looking pretty bare. But the P.M.'s motto is 'Leave nothing to chance' ".

At Yalta nothing, from the morning shave to the final Crimea Declaration to the world, was left to chance.

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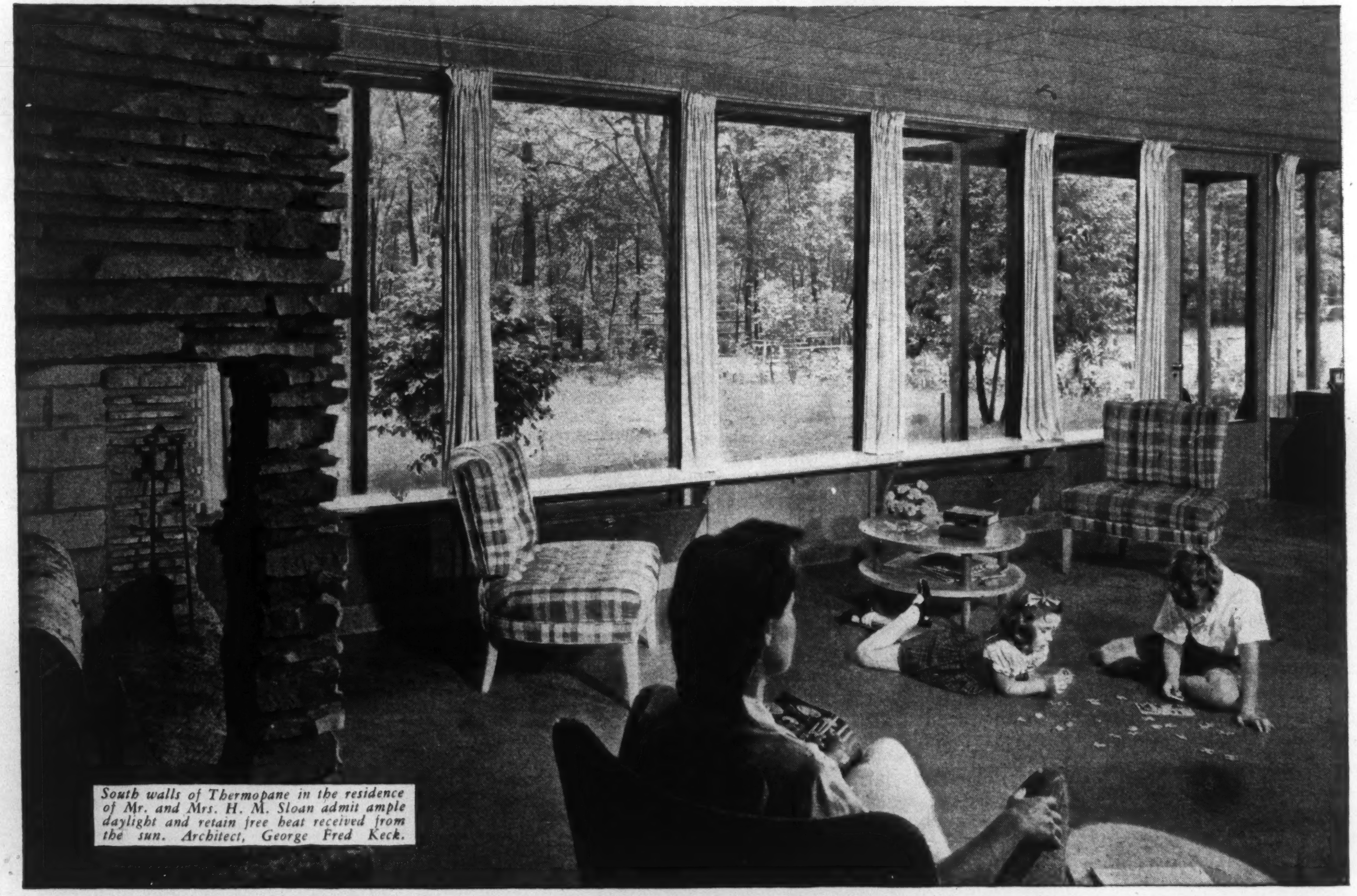

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THE LONDON LETTER

Board of Trade Figures Show Monopolies Must be Watched

By P. O'D.

MUCH is heard these days of monopolies and monopolistic tendencies, and the danger that lies in them to the well-being of the community. That the danger exists is certain, for there can be no doubt of the trend towards a greater and greater concentration of industrial power in a few hands. Some of the more eminent industrialists are themselves almost disarmingly frank about it.

We have, for instance, the head of Imperial Chemical Industries, Lord McGowan, saying in the House of Lords not so long ago that "manufacturers have ceased to believe in the inherent superiority of free or extreme competition", and that they prefer to cooperate in order to "stabilize prices at a reasonable level". Reasonable, sez 'e! But how reasonable?

The difficulity is that what may seem perfectly reasonable to Lord McGowan and his pals, may not seem at all reasonable to the rest of us. Who is to decide? The State? However much people may dislike the idea of State supervision and control—for that has dangers of its own—there is certainly a case for it, in greater or lesser degree. And figures recently given by the chief statistician of the Board of Trade certainly seem to strengthen that case. They make clear what is really meant by monopolistic tendencies—in this country, at any rate.

Taking the year 1935—the last for which complete statistics are available—the returns show that, though there were some 257,000 firms engaged in industry, the 1,000 biggest among them were responsible for half the total production. And this dominance is probably much greater to-day and in still fewer hands, for in the interval of ten years there have been a number of important amalgamations. Besides, there has been the effect of the war in promoting such concentrations—temporary perhaps, but these temporary arrangements have a way of becoming permanent.

So far as the workers are concerned, the figures show that more than half the total number of people engaged in industry are employed by some 2,000 firms, with a staff of over 500 persons each. And here an interesting and rather surprising point is made, which is that the average output per head in these larger concerns is only £234 in value compared with £208 in their small competitors.

This would seem to indicate that efficiency is not altogether a question of mere size—or at least that it need not be. But the advantage, though much smaller than one might have thought, still lies with the larger undertakings. The god of industry, as of war, is on the side of the big battalions.

In all this there is no suggestion that the larger and more powerful companies have taken unfair advantage of their position. Statisticians are concerned only with figures. But there are such things as restrictive agreements, and this business of "cooperating to stabilize prices" can be carried a long, long way. The Government has already promised to look into the matter. There would seem to be a need, not only for enquiry, but also for a constant watchfulness. We have certainly been warned.

Miners Prefer Mismanagement

Coal-owners, like sensible men, are setting their house in order. Not before it was due! Already on the political horizon looms for them the dark cloud, no larger than a man's hand as yet, which is the threat of nationalization. There may still be time to get everything tight and trim before the storm breaks on them, In fact, if they do, it may never break. But there is no time to be lost, as they seem finally to realize.

Mr. Robert Foot, chairman of the Mining Association, produced towards the end of last year a plan of general reorganization for the industry, which has came to be known as the "Foot Plan". It calls for reconstruction and mechanization, the maintenance of better standards of life among miners, the provision of adequate capital, and such production as will satisfy the public that the coal industry is contributing its full share to the national prosperity. All this under the direction of a Central Coal Board, appointed by the mine-owners themselves.

The constitution of this Board is already being drafted. And at least 95 per cent of the industry has so far expressed its willingness to come into the scheme—a quite amazing degree of cooperation in an industry which in the past has certainly not been marked by that spirit. Something must have frightened them.

Oddly, though not illogically, the one section of the mining community which is bitterly opposed to the Foot Plan is the workers. For years they have been loudly protesting against the disorganization and inefficiency of the industry, but apparently not because they wanted to see it well organized and made highly efficient. What they really wanted was that the Government should take it over, lock, stock, and barrel. Obviously the greater the confusion and waste and mismanagement, the better the chance of this happening.

Now we have the leaders of the miners describing the Foot Plan as "too grotesque to be taken seriously", as sheer "coal Fascism", as a plan of "servitude for the nation and for the miners". But it cannot be said that they are getting a very sympathetic hearing from the public. There has been a lot too much absenteeism in the mines and far too many strikes for that. The public is waiting until it sees how the Foot Plan will work before it takes sides in the matter.

Cambridge Wins Again

For the fourth time since the war began the Boat Race has been rowed at Henley. And once again Cambridge has won—in spite of the prophets, who this year plumped heavily for Oxford. Cambridge was the lighter crew, they had to borrow a boat from an Oxford College, one of their best oarsmen fell ill the day before the race, and finally they lost the toss and had to take the poorer side at the start. They won by two lengths.

It begins to look as if there were a sort of fate hanging over these things. But then nobody gets very excited about the Boat Race just now, and probably won't until once again in happier days it can be rowed over the historic course from Putney to Mortlake Brewery, while all London shouts itself hoarse along the river banks. There is something about a brewery that seems to call out the best in an oarsman. Perhaps next year! Anyway, here's hoping.

Small But Good

Books during the last war, as I recall it, were badly printed on execrable paper and badly bound—English books, that is, for American publishers were not crippled by the same restrictions. This time books are much scarcer, owing chiefly to the damage done in the Nazi air raids, which destroyed so many of the publishing houses around Paternoster Row. But I think, on the whole, they are better printed and better bound than the books produced during the last war. Not all of them, I admit, but the best are really a triumph of good publishing under heavy difficulties.

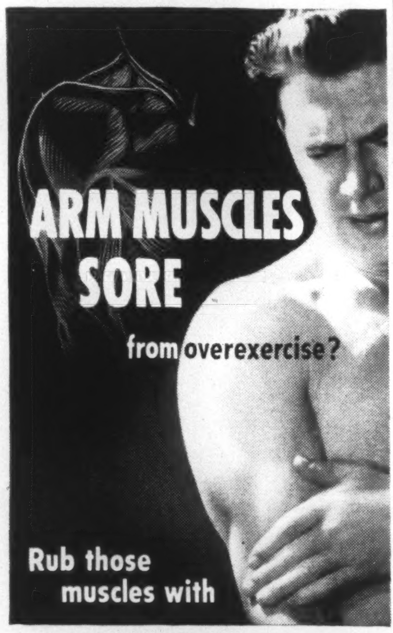
One is reminded of this by a little exhibition opened a few days ago in the Churchill Club, Westminster. I say "little" and little it is, just 50 books chosen from some 350 published last year. The official title of the show, in fact, is "Fifty Books, 1944". They were chosen, not for their literary merit, but for their excellence as specimens of bookmaking.

The show was opened by the American Ambassador, Mr. Winant. A duplicate collection is being sent to New York for display there. The original suggestion indeed came from The Institute of Graphic Arts in New York. It is hoped that an exchange of such exhibitions will become a regular annual courtesy between American and English publishers.

There is at least one thing to be said for the war-time books, that they are easy to handle—light on the wrist. And they slip easily into the pocket. The paper is thin, the covers are light, and the margins are small. So is the print small, too, though that is not always a virtue. But generally they are easy also on the eye. They are eminently readable.

It may be that Charles Lamb would not have approved of them. He liked his books big. "And you, my midnight darlings, my Folios! Must I part with the delight of having you (huge armfuls) in my embraces?"

Certainly there are some books—Boswell's Johnson for one, I have always thought—that seem to lose something of their flavor in our trim little modern editions, like old ale in



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Road building is tremendous enterprise. Today, in the planning stage, it looks like jobs for many thousands of men and a huge investment every year—a big factor in Canadian economic and national development.

New roads are needed—*now*. Before the war the traffic carried by our great highway system totalled several billion miles annually—about all the old roads could carry. New construction, drastically reduced by war, must take care of expanding post-war transportation.

Power is the hub around which this whole operation turns. Road construction men are planning their work now, and that means big International crawlers on the dirt-moving jobs.

These rugged tractors have been making history on some of the toughest assignments of the war. As battling "bulldozers" they've spearheaded the action on every fighting front, paving the way for our fighting forces. War has proved they have what it takes to shove Canada's peacetime highways through with speed at lowest cost.

Harvester also builds the power units that put the push behind all kinds of graders, shovels, mixers and other road-building machines. With this equipment on the job you'll soon ride new roads in a peaceful and prosperous Canada.

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a wine-glass. But, generally speaking, the small modern volume has many merits—not least the merit that you can throw it away with a light heart. You can't very well throw a Folio.

Pity Poor Pipe-smokers

Pipe-smokers are having a hard time of it. There are no pipes—or so nearly none as to constitute a veritable famine. Most of the wood for briars used to be imported from France and North Africa. The war stopped all that.

Even now when these countries have been liberated, shipping space is reserved for things considered far more important—though not by pipe-smokers. Nor would a new and adequate supply of briar-root meet the difficulty. Pipe-making is a highly skilled occupation, and the artists who used to turn out those lovely brown bowls and smooth, shining stems, have long since been drafted away to the horrid purposes of war.

Old-fashioned pipe-smokers, it is true, used to have whole batteries of pipes, generally arranged in neat little racks. But not everyone has been so provident. A good many men live from pipe to mouth, as it were. And pipes are subject to many mischances.

These are the poor wretches who now haunt the tobacconists, in the vain hope that somewhere sometime they will come on a smokable briar. To such men the offer of cigarettes is an insult—like poor Marie Antoinette's suggestion that the starving Parisians should eat cake. That is how revolutions start.

Double Summer-Time

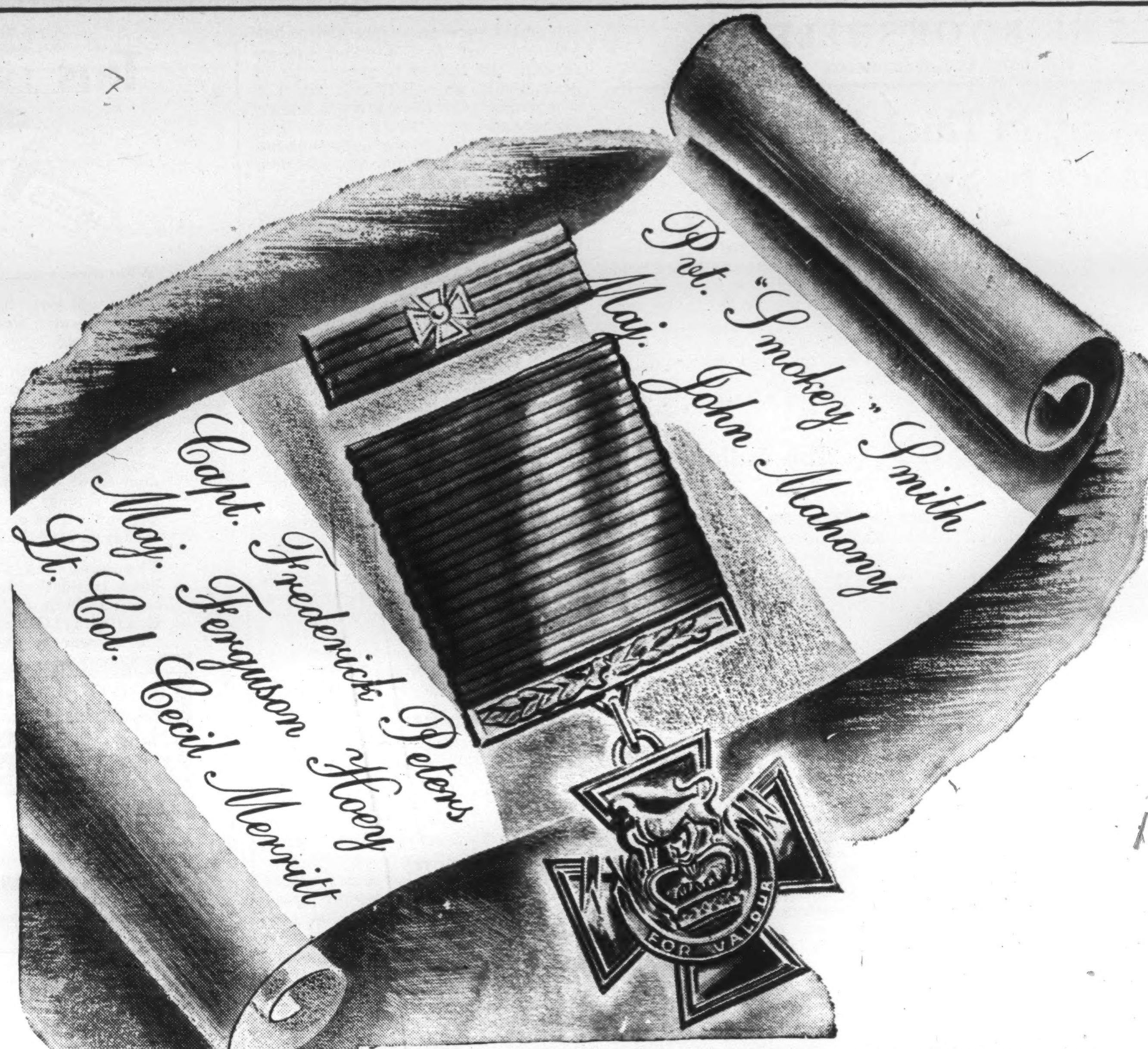
Double Summer-Time is to begin in the first week of April—on Easter Monday, in fact. There have been the usual plaintive or indignant protests from the farming community, including some from M.P.'s representing agricultural districts. As usual nothing has come of them. This is an industrial country, and in spite of all the talk about food-production, the needs of industry come first—now more than ever.

The only consolation for people who think that midday should come at twelve o'clock and not at two in the afternoon, and that one should not have to wait until after eleven at night to shut up the chickens—or put the children to bed, for that matter—is that Double Summer-Time is to be much shorter this year. It will end on July 15.

There is even a suggestion that by next October we may go back to sun-time for the winter.

THE GIFT OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth with Princess Juliana of the Netherlands stands beside one of the Canteens which the Queen recently presented to aid homeless people in Holland.



BRITISH COLUMBIA BREEDS *Valour*

THIRD in population, Canada's Pacific province ranks first by a wide margin in the number of her heroic sons to win the highest award of the British Commonwealth—the Victoria Cross.

Of the eight Canadians whose exceptional courage and devotion to duty during the present war brought the supreme recognition . . . five were British Columbians!

August 19th, 1942: Lt.-Col. Charles Cecil Ingersoll Merritt of Vancouver, though twice wounded, remained on a Dieppe beach under heavy fire, covering the withdrawal of his unit. He was taken prisoner.

November 8th, 1942: Capt. Frederick Thornton Péters, R.N., of Nelson, led the cutters H.M.S. Walney and Harland in a suicidal action against the French harbour at Oran, Algeria. He died in an air crash shortly afterwards.

February 2nd, 1944: Major Charles Ferguson Hoey, M.C., of Duncan, despite serious wounds, single-handedly killed every occupant of a Japanese hill position in Burma. His wounds brought his death fifteen days later.

May 24th, 1944: Major John Keefer Mahony of New Westminster, led his company across the unbridged Melfa River in Italy against concentrated fire, shattered enemy attacks, and though outnumbered and outgunned, two to one, inspired his men to fighting fury and held the crossing until reinforced. Though wounded three times in the action, Mahony later returned home to receive the acclaim of the Nation.

October 21st, 1944: Private Ernest A. (Smokey) Smith, first Canadian private to receive the V.C. in this war, earned immortal honour at the Savio River in Italy for "audacity to the point of contempt" when, single-handed, he put to route ten Germans in two attacking tanks, killing four and wounding six.

BEHIND EVERY HEADLINE

When the story of Canada's war effort can be told in detail, our people will learn with pride of the important part many Canadian industrial plants have played. The management and men of U.D.L. devote all their time and all the facilities of their Vancouver and Grimsby plants to meeting every demand of the armed forces for high-test alcohol for making smokeless powder and other vitally needed munitions, and the demand grows greater with the increasing tempo of the war today.

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An Odyssey in Thick Darkness From France to Switzerland

AGE OF THUNDER, a novel, by Frederic Prokosch. (Musson, $3.00.)

THERE is a poetic quality in this tale, deep, as it is, in understanding of life and love, rich in phrase and figure, and with an atmosphere of waking dream. In such an atmosphere outlines become somewhat clouded by wonder, and the whole has the intangible quality of myth. One thinks of Irish folk-tales, such as Deirdre or Cathleen ni Houlihan.

That is not to say that the characters are unreal or the story fanciful. The author has taken a sharply realistic scene; the night march of refugees across occupied France to safety in Switzerland, and has created living people perpetually in the darkness of fear, horror and revenge. During the march traitors or suspects die mysteriously. Indeed the action is of the nature of melodrama, as it must be.

The background is the intoxicating beauty of the mountains. And all the author's inner questionings of the nature of God and man and civilization are naturally put into the words and thoughts of the homeless and uprooted and despairing in the long quest for freedom. An old Italian is pessimistic in the extreme. His wife is rich in faith and hope. His soul-frozen daughter melts at last.

All the way along one meets strange, often terrible, figures who have fallen foul of Germans and cherish a fierce, undying hatred. At the same time they have a soft nostalgia for Paris or some other city, great or small, as it used to be and may never be again. A sentimental savagery possesses them.

As for the quality of the author's descriptive powers, take this passage: "The moon appeared and the Alps shone with a brittle, paralyzed magnificence. Far behind him he recognized the three ascending peaks . . . but the flawless culmination of Mont Blanc had vanished, and beyond flowed only the limitless sky with the stars suspended in its terrible currents like algae, a shivering and elemental green, incredibly frail in their structure and monstrous in their multitude."

A distinguished and powerful tale!

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Two For The Ladies

By W. S. MILNE

RED FRUIT by Temple Bailey. (Allen; $2.35.)

YEOMAN'S HOSPITAL by Helen Ashton. (Collins; $2.75.)

"RED Fruit" is a pleasant romantic tale about a young American officer on leave in Washington, who finds that the girl he had become engaged to when he went away does not come up to specifications when he gets back. However, there is another girl, so that's all right. It is competently written, and while it will not stir anyone very deeply, it is pleasant enough reading. It sounds as if it might have been serialized in one of the women's magazines. At any rate, it could have been.

"Yeoman's Hospital" is splendid stuff, if you are one of those people on whom the inner workings of a hospital exercise an unholy fascination. It is the account of twenty-four hours in a small but progressive English provincial hospital. Outpatients' department, maternity ward, labs, dispensaries, operating theatre, nurses' quarters, men's surgical; cancer, childbirth, brain tumours and gastric ulcers; doctors and nurses and boards of governors, patients and probationers! There is a love affair between a young female doctor and a brilliant but irritable pathologist; there are staff rivalries, mistaken diagnoses and emergency operations. There are characters pleasant and unpleasant, tedious and amusing.

Miss Ashton has succeeded in giving a brilliant and convincing picture of her hospital, a success which is in part due to the fact that she herself served as a nurse during the last war, and later studied medicine and received her degree. She has already made use of her medical background in her very popular "Dr. Serocold". The combination of authoritative inside information and competent literary craftsmanship has made of "Yeoman's Hospital" a book which should repeat her earlier success. It is difficult to believe that Miss Ashton is the same woman that wrote "Joanna", one of last year's duller novels.

Both novels are predominantly feminine in their point of view, and, I should imagine, in their appeal.

•

Gripping Story

By STEWART C. EASTON

INHERIT THE EARTH. By Marguerite Shedd. (Mussons, $3.00.)

HERE is a story of the beginnings of revolution in some unnamed Central American state, and a study of the characters on each side of the struggle. After the first few pages, some sentences of which are badly in need of revision, it holds the attention. There are pages full of such an exquisite tension that the slightest outside interruption came as a rude shock. Pity fills the book, and absolute terror; time and again a wanton yet completely credible act of violence assails the emotions, as when an old friend poisons the wife of the chief revolutionary in the sour hope of undermining the husband's capacity for action.

The surface setting of the book at once invites a comparison with Hemingway, with its revolution, its Spanish characters and speech, and its culminating bullfight. And, like Hemingway, Miss Shedd avoids the pitfall of the too good and the too evil. But her book is wholly original, a personal expression of her love and her hatred. And though perhaps the hatred is greater, as in her devastating portraits of the stupid men who have always known power and cannot realize that it can ever be destroyed, her superb study of the wretched athletic attaché who wants to be important, and the horrible old pander who tries to murder two American children, yet she is aware of beauty and love also, a conspicuous lack in Hemingway, who cannot progress beyond the desperate masculine quest for forgetfulness and momentary intensity.

In the atmosphere Miss Shedd portrays, in which *anything* can happen, sudden death, mutilation, cold blooded motiveless murder, the love story of the blind man for the American woman does not merely point an insipid contrast, as in most books of this kind. It is not so much a love story *per se* as an insistent, almost symbolic reminder of the potentialities of man, the same reminder that Anna Seghers gave us in "The Seventh Cross," though Miss Seghers reminded us of his integrity, not his love. This book is worthy to be set with hers as one of the most hopeful, though terrible, books of our time. Though it may have few readers, those few will remember it.

•

For Little Folks

THE LITTLE STONE HOUSE by Berta and Elmer Hader (Macmillans, $2.25.)

THIS is the plain story of the Doe family who lived in an apartment. "The living room was small, the bedrooms were smaller and the kitchen was the smallest of all." Naturally they wanted a house in the country, and so set to work to build one, not without difficulty. The book is rich in gay pictures, many in color.

•

Nature Verse

FROM DAWN TO DUSK, by Helen Fairbairn. (University of Toronto Press, $2.00.)

CLOISTERED in a library for years, first at McGill and then at the University of Toronto, a gracious lady set down from time to time, often in roundel or other fixed rhythms, her sense of wonder at the ceaseless beauty of out-of-doors. Here is a collection of her verses. If they echo the voices of a past age that is to be expected. Sometimes on opening a neglected book a pressed rose falls out. And the perfume persists.

•

A Modern Master

RENOIR, by Rosamund Frost. (Collins, $3.95.)

AN APPRECIATION of the greatest of the Impressionists, serving to introduce reproductions of his more notable works, eight in full color, and nearly forty in monochrome. A *must* for every connoisseur of painting.

It's a nasty word

But I've gotta tell you, Boss. *I've got worms again.* And they're getting me down, ruining my disposition. Soon I'll be just skin and bones.

I'll need Sergeant's SURE SHOT Capsules to lick these worms, now I'm a grown dog. When I was a pup, it was Sergeant's Puppy Capsules—remember? And they both work fast, clean out worms!

Let's run around to the drug store now, Boss, and get them. You can get a Sergeant's Dog Book, too, at stores or with this coupon.

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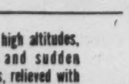

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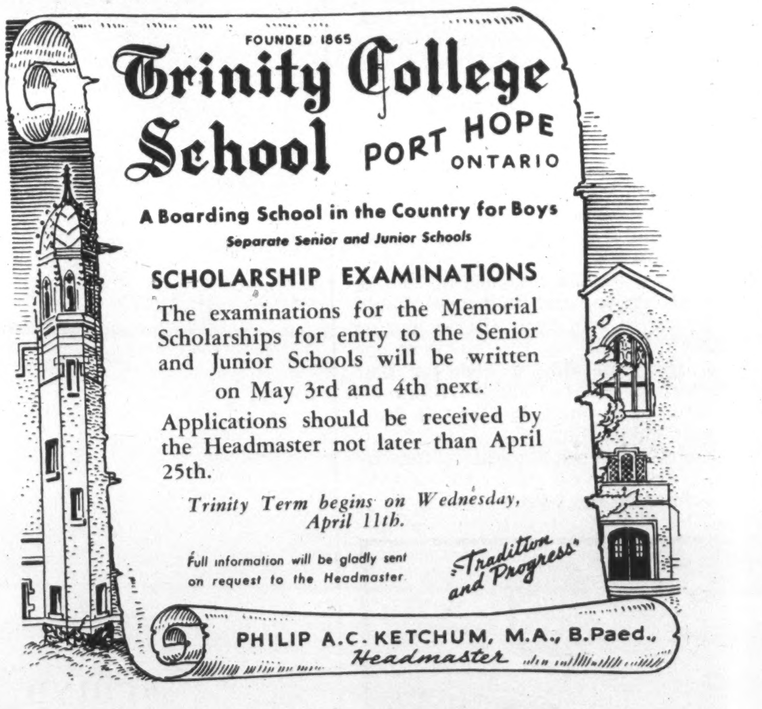

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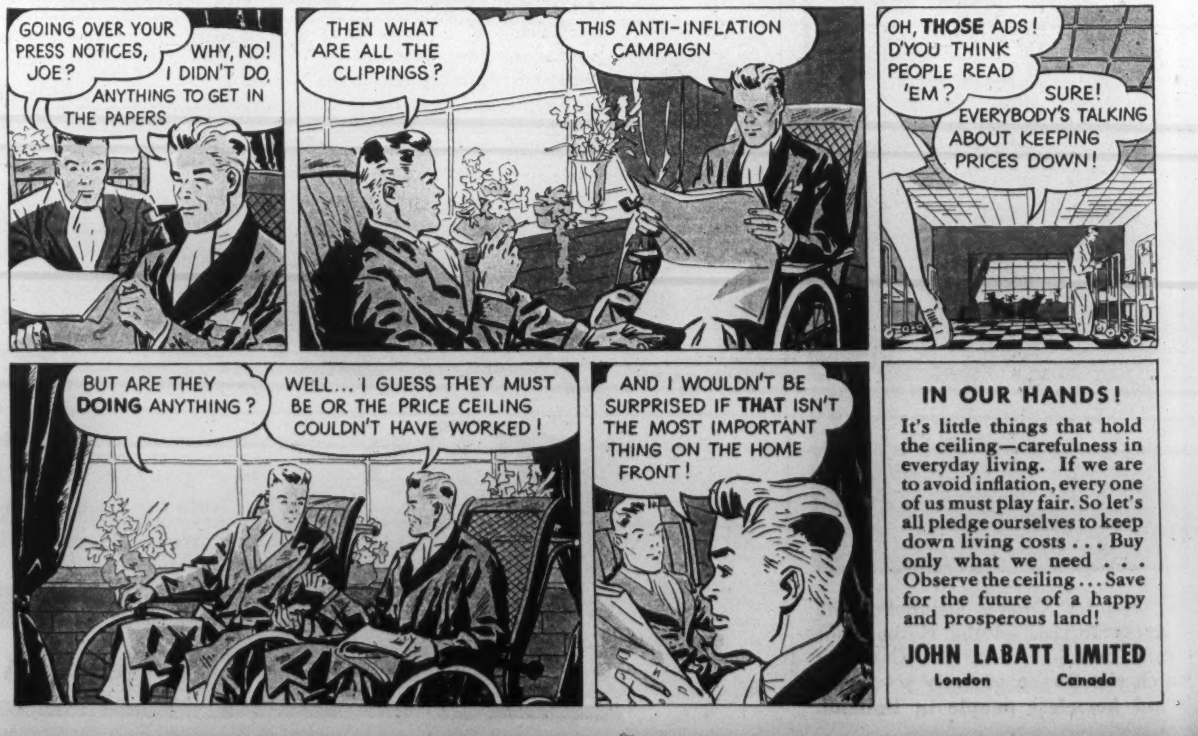
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THE BOOKSHELF

The Decadence of the Cities and the Need of Designing

THE CITY; ITS GROWTH, ITS DECAY, ITS FUTURE, by Eliel Saarinen. (Reinhold, N.Y., $3.50, American funds.)

IF it weren't for land values and legislators big cities might be built or rebuilt with the welfare of *all* the inhabitants in mind, with a department of social research in continuous operation, with a maximum of corelation; family with family, district with district, transportation with business.

Though the hurdles are great and high no harm comes from ignoring them temporarily in order to discuss what is wrong with the average city, how it got that way and what should be done to cure it. Mr. Saarinen is an architect of high reputation, born in Finland but practising in the United States. He is also director of Cranbrook Academy of Art at Bloomfield Falls, Michigan.

In this book he reveals much learning, much artistic taste and permits himself much criticism; even of town-planners who talk of parks and boulevards when uncrowded, sanitary homes are of infinitely more importance. He himself prefers to be known as a town-designer. Overcrowding and high land-values, he says, make slums, and ornamental treatment of a city with slums is like putting diamonds on a dirty neck.

He admits that communal purchase of slum-lands and the acquisition of suburban areas to permit of decentralization would be an enormous undertaking especially when the average urban dweller's interest in community improvement is not far from absolute zero. But a greater problem still, we imagine, would be the education of councillors and legislators, who, with ears to the ground, can detect not the slightest wave of public enthusiasm.

Nevertheless this book is of first rate importance, since it considers the city as a specialist doctor looks at a patient, filling up its diversified history chart, diagnosing its ills, and declaring at last that there is nothing for it but an operation.

•

South of the Caribbean

CITIES OF LATIN AMERICA, by Francis Violich. (Reinhold, N.Y. $3.50, American funds.)

AN ARCHITECT, knowing well the theory of town-planning and its more or less imperfect practice in the United States, has made a survey of the cities of South America. In not a few of these he found the Sixteenth Century and the Twentieth Century living cheek by jowl; noble and imposing squares, parks and buildings around the corner from slums and smells far worse than most northern people can imagine, much less tolerate.

An unbalanced economy, feudal practices and a high percentage of illiteracy combine to keep wages almost incredibly low, while land-owners and investors grow rich. Under such conditions good housing is a mere dream, and without good housing proper town planning is estopped before it can begin.

•

A National Problem

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY PLANNING, a series of lectures from November, 1943, to March, 1944. (McGill University, Extension Dept., $1.00.)

SIXTEEN men of distinction, architects, engineers and others, are here assembled to discuss the many phases of a problem that becomes more and more pressing from year to year. In the cities, districts run down from a variety of causes until they end as slums, breeding disease and crime. In the country, dwellings in many instances are ill-suited to the well-being of the people. People often "run-down" in parallel with their homes and children lose the opportunity of healthy growth in a healthy environment. For this reason alone, not considering others, housing is a subject of national importance.

At the same time it is not generally understood as such. This book is recommended reading for all people of intelligence, particularly for men and women in municipal office. There is a valuable foreword by Dr. F. Cyril James, Principal of McGill.

•

The Importance of Asia

SOLUTION IN ASIA, by Owen Littimore. (McClelland & Stewart, $2.50.)

GRANTED that Asia is an enigma and Russia a puzzle to the average American or British citizen the time seems to be opportune to attempt a solution. The author of this book lived and worked for more than twenty years in the Far East and his information not only detailed and exact, is also organized, which gives his opinions an authoritative ring.

In this book he sets up the difficulties of stabilization in the East as one might set up the chessmen on the board and then marvels that the Big Men of the West don't seem ready to play. His particular criticism is of the United States, too ready to wait and see, when in his opinion the immediate need is a categorical statement of policy. An interesting and important book.

•

The Verse-Writers

ON CANADIAN POETRY, by E. K. Brown. (Ryerson, $2.25.)

THIS is the second edition, with revisions, of the notable critical essay which won the Governor General's Award in 1943. Some of the moderate astringencies of the first edition have been modified without damage to the high standards in mind, and a place is made for review of some recent poetry. That such a book as this should enjoy a continuing sale is a wholesome sign.

•

Eloquent Pictures

OUR SONS WILL TRIUMPH, a book of photographs arranged by Jack Dixon. (Oxford $3.00).

A PRAYER for D-Day, written by President Roosevelt on June 6, 1944 and not 200 words in length is here illustrated by some fifty full page photographs of people and incidents in these times of terror and gallantry. They are dramatic in the highest degree, suffused alike with pride and pity, and reveal camera art at its best.

•

The Holy Land

PALESTINE, LAND OF PROMISE, by Walter Clay Lowdermilk. (Musson, $3.50.)

BY irrigation, terracing and other means of soil-conservation various colonies of Jews in Palestine have succeeded to admiration in restoring their fraction of land to an amazing fertility while the city life of Tel Aviv is a model for the whole Middle East. And this, despite Arab hostility.

The author of this book is an American expert in the restoring of soil who was asked to visit Palestine and make suggestions. All of these are notable and at least one is magnificent; that is to say, the creation of "A Jordan Valley Authority" which would produce enormous reserves of electric energy and at the same time provide storage basins for irrigation on a big scale.

The plan is one designed to make all Palestine a land of milk and honey, as once it was said to be before erosion set in. But until some modus vivendi is made between Jews and Arabs, satisfying to each nationality, one backward and the other forward-looking, it remains in the air. But the book is excellent in design and in manner.

•

A Zoology Collection

THE BOOK OF NATURALISTS, an Anthology of the Best Natural History, by William Beebe. (Ryerson, $4.25.)

A GOOD many accurate observers of the bits of life in the air, on the land and in the sea were also writers of merit, even as the Editor of this book. He was surely the man best qualified to assemble the literary chapters of Biology which begin with Pliny and Aristotle and continue with Reaumer, Linnaeus, Gilbert White, John James Audubon and many others.

The selections range over all fields; Fabre and Maeterlinck on the insects, Carl Akeley and Henry Osborne on elephants, Thomas Henry Huxley on fossils, Stefansson, Ernest Thompson Seton, Donald Culross Peattie, John Burroughes, each on his specialty. These are high-lights in the literature of wonder.

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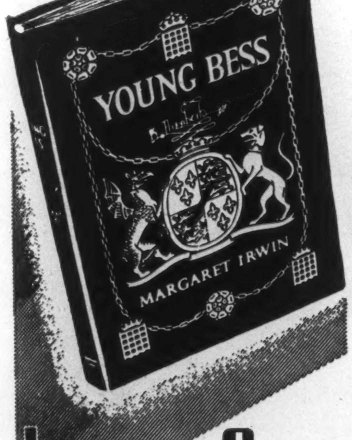

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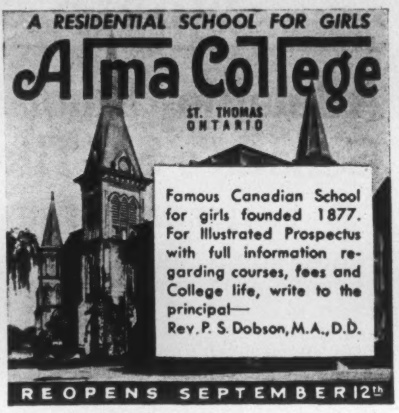

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THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON EDUCATION

which has been appointed to enquire into and report upon the system of education in Ontario will hold its first sessions in the Senate Chamber of the University of Toronto at 10 a.m. and at 2 p.m. on April 11, and on April 12, 1945, under the Chairmanship of the Hon. Mr. Justice J. A. Hope.

Preliminary consideration will be given to such written submissions as are presented on or before April 10. Briefs submitted after that date will be considered at subsequent sessions of the Commission.

All organizations interested in any of the problems related to public education are invited to submit briefs to

R. W. B. Jackson, Secretary,
Royal Commission on Education,
Parliament Buildings, Toronto.

WORLD OF WOMEN

Adelaide Sinclair, Director of Canada's Six Thousand Wrens

By FLORENCE E. WHYARD

COMMANDER ADELAIDE SINCLAIR, O.B.E., was in Washington not so long ago on an official visit during which she was invited to inspect quarters of United States servicewomen as well as her own Canadian Wrens. During a lull in one of the inspections, Captain Mildred McAfee, chief of the Waves, drew her aside and said confidentially, "Are you an anomaly?"

Instantly, the Director of the W.R.C.N.S. understood and nodded a definite affirmative.

"So am I," the Waves' captain responded. "Isn't it awful!"

Now Mrs. Sinclair doesn't look like an "irregularity" as the Oxford dictionary describes "anomaly" but if you stop to think it over, that's exactly what she, and the other leaders of women's forces in this country, presented to the permanent staffs of the navy, army and air force, when women were first introduced in this war. Certainly, there had to be women to direct the women's services, but just how far should their authority go—what power should be entrusted to them—what would be the highest rank within their reach—how much could a Wren Director tell the Chief of Naval Staff about what to do with Wrens?

Not In Naval Orders

None of the answers to those questions have ever been put down in black and white, or issued in Naval Orders, and there is the key to the successful directing of the W.R.C.N.S. For it has been successful, as many a naval officer can testify, only because this poised, efficient and charming woman realized that she was an "anomaly" and used all the tact and executive experience at her command.

That experience was far from inadequate. When she came into the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service in March, 1943, Adelaide Sinclair was an economist on the staff of the Economics Branch, Wartime Prices and Trade Board, with the job of advising the Board regarding price control in other countries.

It was not the kind of work that just anyone could do, and Mrs. Sinclair had not just happened into it. Her training in economics began at the University of Toronto, where she graduated in 1920 with honors in political science. Plunging into a study of economic history and armed with a fellowship, she took her M.A. degree, acting as assistant to the dean of women at University College during her courses. The next step was to the London School of Economics where she continued graduate work. One of her professors was Harold Laski; Sir William Beveridge was head of the school.

She had a couple of summers on the continent, and then the University of Toronto cabled her to return as lecturer in the Department of Economics. For three years, until 1930, it was a professional career, and then Adelaide Macdonald married Donald B. Sinclair, barrister. The role of housewife didn't exclude teaching entirely, and Mrs. Sinclair spoke to members of the Y.W.C.A. twice weekly on current events.

With her husband's death in 1938, she devoted more time to executive work on several Toronto welfare agencies, and to her position as president of Kappa Alpha Theta Fraternity, which took her on tours of Canada and the United States, visiting the 27,000 women members at colleges and universities across the continent. Four years later she gave up fraternity executive duties to concentrate on her work as chairman of the Central Volunteer Bureau in Toronto, directing women in voluntary efforts, and later acted as chairman for the Women's Salvage Committee.

That background in economics came to the fore again when she joined the Wartime Prices and Trade Board staff in Ottawa, and she is still using it, though perhaps unconsciously, in her work as Director of the Wrens. There are many similar factors in controlling prices and controlling Wrens—both are wartime problems, both involve voluntary restrictions, some element of sacrifice and a lot of patriotism, but most important is the right angle of attack!

At a fraternity dinner held in Ottawa recently, as each member stood up, introduced herself and told what she was doing now, there was the usual proportion of career women and mothers with young families, until it came to Commander Sinclair.

"Go on, Adelaide," said the chairman. "We all know who you are and what you're doing, but tell us yourself."

Whereupon D/W.R.C.N.S. stood up and announced simply, "I am Adelaide Sinclair, Sigma chapter, and I have more children than any of you because I am the Mother Wren."

Ask the Wrens about her. From coast to coast they know her as the short, trim, very official and awe-inspiring figure who comes to make formal inspections and to enquire into general conditions of their work, accommodation and enjoyment of life. There are hundreds who know her better.

House Guest

There is a group of Wren officers on the West coast who know her as a perfect house guest—and an unexpected one! For she arrived by plane in Vancouver one day to find no hotel room could be located anywhere, and the usual officers' quarters were non-existent. Instead, there was a small, humble cottage on the outskirts of the city, where seven or eight Wren "Subbies" lived on lodging allowance, and kept house for themselves. Suddenly, they found themselves entertaining the Director!

But not for long. Those three blue stripes on her navy blue sleeve practically melted away, and soon she was out in their tiny kitchen, helping fry eggs and make coffee for breakfast. And that's another thing . . . she can cook.

Her office day begins at nine, and from then on there is a constant stream of visitors to her sunny office in the huge wartime Navy building on Cartier Square. This should be attributed not only to the fact that she directs an organization of 6,000 women in the Navy and consequently has a tremendous amount of executive work to supervise, but also to the fact that she is extremely "available".

Some of the most anxious visitors Commander Sinclair gets these days are husbands of Wrens; the men have been overseas with the Navy or the Army or the Air Force, now they are back in Canada, ready to start their own homes and families and they want their wives. In a case like that, if the married Wren is not urgently required in the naval service, and the husband has a job, plans and ability to take care of his wife, the Wren is allowed to leave the service. But there is no general exodus of these service wives—each case must be considered individually.

Commander Sinclair herself is not expecting to leave the Wrens until all the final problems of discharge and rehabilitation have been ironed out and they no longer require her services. She has several projects she'd like to see underway before the girls are demobilized in any large numbers—as they may be following the close of the European chapter of this war.

Equipped For Future

In that connection the Director's pet plans enter the picture. "I feel that every girl should be given instruction in budget planning before she leaves the Service," Commander Sinclair says. "Many of the younger Wrens came straight into the Service from school or from homes where they were never required to handle money in a practical way. As Wrens they have been paid for their work, but they were provided with food, clothing, accommodation, medical and dental care, transportation, and supervision. What happens when they start work at a $20 a week job somewhere and have to be responsible for paying room rent, buying clothes, food, paying doctor bills, budgeting for insurance, taxes—? I hate to think of them tackling that without adequate preparation, and in my opinion, it is up to the Service to provide them with that very necessary instruction."

Lectures on home making, child care and citizenship generally are other goals the Director is aiming at.

Personally, Adelaide Sinclair, O.B.E., has no post war plans. She confided that experience showed that whenever she made elaborate personal plans for the future, they invariably fizzled off into nothingness and something else came along and "hit her on the head". She confidently expects that after her job with the Navy is through, something else will come along and surprise her.

The citation at the time she was made an officer of the Order of the British Empire, Military Division, gives the official version of the job she has done for Canada's Wrens: "Commander Sinclair has shown untiring zeal, and outstanding ability, tact and judgment in organizing the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service into a most efficient and well-disciplined unit".

Considering that most of that organizing had to be done by the power of persuasion alone, and that Adelaide Sinclair allows herself "only three official battles per year—that's enough" there could be no higher praise. Averse to publicity, she is the type of woman who never intrudes at functions where her rank and position might divert the limelight from another officer.

The Wrens like best of all this story. A dear little old lady stopped a Wren downtown in Toronto to say how much she admired the Navy, and the girls who served in it. Then came the usual question. "I have a niece in the Wrens—would you know her?" Patiently the girl replied, "Well, there are six thousand of us; but I might. What's her name?"

"Adelaide Sinclair," said the auntie.

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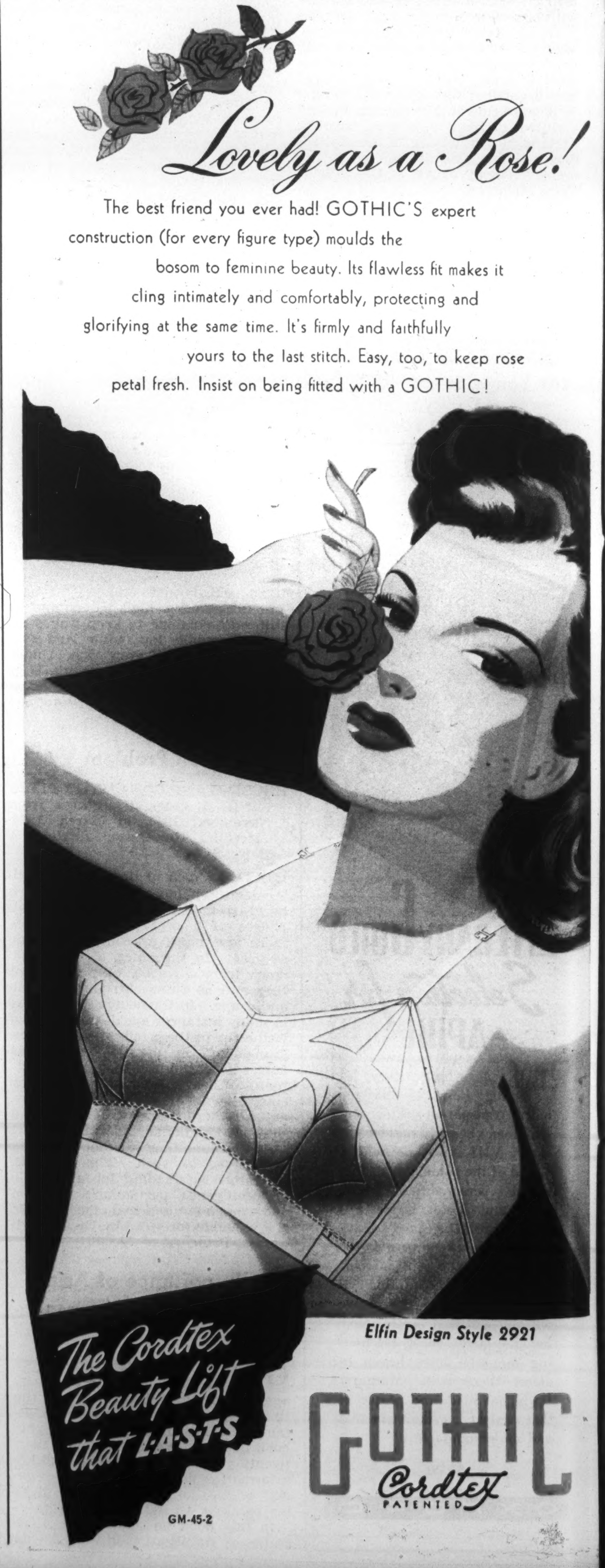
Worth stopping for—



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Oscar and Cornelia: Hosts to the Visiting Theatrical World

By ANN FOSTER

ALMOST any day around five in the afternoon, if you step into a certain small, unassuming "grill" not very far from Toronto's only theatre of the drama, you will find a group of stars and near-stars of the theatre, movie, ballet, or concert world.

You may see Paul Robeson doing justice to a sizzling steak, or Leonide Massine reclining gracefully—as only he could—on a stiff-backed chair, imbibing scarlet tomato juice with the serious concentration recently transferred from the rehearsal room; you might find the members of the Gilbert and Sullivan Opera Company, *en masse*, gleefully scooping up varied and delicious *hors d'oeuvres* from the feast spread in front of them; or maybe they'd be members of the Boston Opera Company or the Monte Carlo Ballet corps.

In any event, whatever current attraction is "on" in Toronto, here in this little cafe, the Winston Grill, will you find the theatre folk; the dancers, the actors and actresses, the musicians, the conductors, the singers, the choregraphers and the press agents.

They are all there because they enjoy themselves, because the modest little eating place has now become their rendezvous and, most important of all, because they like the guy who runs the place. They like him and they like his attractive young, bronze-haired wife. This is not to be wondered at, for Oscar and Cornelia Berceller dote on the theatre and theatre folk. Oscar particularly, since he married Cornelia, who was an opera star herself not so long ago.

The English Major

The story behind these two energetic and courageous people can vie in interest and drama with any role Cornelia, or any of their theatre patrons might ever play on the stage. To use Oscar's own words, "I wake up one morning in my home in Czechoslovakia and see the German guns facing me across the river. It was not pretty. I know what awaits us if we stay where we are, for we would not have pleased the Nazis."

We all remember the year the Germans goose-stepped into Prague. At that time, Oscar Berceller, European tennis champion, with hundreds of medals and cups to his credit, was also the owner of the largest brush and broom factory in Europe.

On the morning he saw the Nazi guns he visited his banker. "I was one of the lucky people," he says. "I had a good deal of money in the bank." But when he arrived at the bank there was nothing at all his bank manager could do for him. The banks were *closed*. Oscar went home, penniless, told his wife, they packed, and, with their small son, escaped to France.

In Paris they had friends—Cornelia's erstwhile theatre friends, Oscar's artist friends, many of his business associates. Things were not so bad. Their most important friend turned out to be an English major in the diplomatic service. He warned them that they would not be safe for long, even in Paris. "Why not go to Canada?" he asked. Oscar said "Oui!" because he could not then speak a word of English. Neither could Cornelia.

In 1940 the broom and brush manufacturer, his wife and son, set sail for Canada. They arrived, and they were stunned. "It was like coming to another world," Cornelia says, laughing now. "It was so large, and new, and we could not speak a word to anyone."

Oscar sat himself down in Toronto and pondered upon the problem of finding something to do that would keep the proverbial wolf from the door of the little home he hoped would shelter his family in the new country. At first he could think of nothing but brooms. Then Cornelia said, "Well, you know, I cannot only sing. I can cook, also!"

The brooms faded somewhat, while Oscar looked at his wife. "Cook?" he said. Then he muttered the French equivalent of "So what?"

"People are always hungry," urged Cornelia, "and one does not need English to cook. French is as good, no? . . . or even Czech?"

"Oui!" said Oscar. And this time there wasn't even the thought of a hair of one of his brooms to block his determination to open and run a cafe.

Cornelia hid herself in the kitchen. Oscar, armed with six daily newspapers (which he read religiously every morning in order to teach himself English) stood at frozen, terrified attention behind the counter. This was going to be very different from giving consultaions by appointment to visiting brush and broom executives in his fine office in Czechoslovakia.

The first morning the cafe door opened and a messenger boy chewing a wad of gum skimmed the length of the cafe like a trapese artist, flung himself on one of the stools, tossed a nickel on the counter, and yelled, "Abottlerpop!"

Language Hurdle

Oscar looked frantically in the direction of the kitchen, but no help was forthcoming. He gazed at the messenger boy. "Wot you say?" he asked gently.

"Aw!" grinned the boy. "Quit yer foolin'. I said a bottlerpop!"

"I think," said Cornelia in French, putting her head through the hole leading to the kitchen, "that he wants a bottle of pop!"

Oscar handed a bottle of pop to his first customer, and promptly ensconced himself behind the fourth daily paper that morning, to wade once again through the bewildering columns of newsprint. He'd learn!

This daily routine went on for longer than Oscar or Cornelia like to remember. But the worst time of all came when they found they could not speak to their son Tommy. Tommy could speak only perfect French when he arrived in Canada with his parents. By the time Oscar and Cornelia had learned to speak English, Tommy had entirely forgotten his French, and the English his parents spoke was nothing like the English he was now learning at school. "Fetch my cigarettes, Tommy," Oscar would say in halting English. "What d'ya mean, pop?" "Right!" Oscar would sigh, "let's try French." But after he had asked Tommy in French, the child would stare, utterly uncomprehending. Later on, he failed at school in the only language he could speak perfectly on arrival in Canada.

One way and another, it was all pretty difficult until the day in 1942 when Elissa Landi dropped in for a bite to eat. She met Oscar and Cornelia and talked to them. "Why," she asked, "don't you cater to some of us tired and usually terribly hungry theatre folk? . . . do something about it. I'm sure it would work."

Autographs and Goulash

It did. Now, only fifteen months later, there are one hundred and twenty-five autographed pictures of stars of stage, radio, movie, concert, ballet and opera fame on the walls of the cafe. There is a visitor's book getting more amusing and fatter each week with signatures, sketches and witty messages to the Bercellers and their rendezvous, from people like Paul Robeson, Katherine Dunham, Jose Ferrer, Ethel Barrymore-Colt, Danilova, Madge Evans, and hundreds of others. The cafe is no longer manned by a timid, erstwhile broom executive, hiding behind a pile of newsprint; or by a tremulous wife in the kitchen trying to make acquaintance with "your such wonderful steaks which we do not have in Europe," but by two people who speak English, who have mastered the intricacies of cooking steak *a la Canada* . . . who cook Hungarian goulash every Wednesday; and who display on their evening counter a truly European assortment of *hors d'oeuvres*.

Today, when speaking of Canada, Oscar smiles broadly: "I have so many good friends, I work, I am happy. Cornelia, too. And our son is more Canadian than Czech."

Oscar Berceller made more money as one of Europe's leading manufacturers than he makes as proprietor of one of Canada's smallest cafes, but he has more fun serving meals than he had supervising the making of brooms.

When asked what he will do when, and if, he is able to retrieve any of his wealth in Europe, Oscar unhesitatingly answers: "Build one of the most wonderful night clubs and cafes in Canada. Yes, sir! I have my ideas *here* already." He taps his head, and smiles mysteriously. "Besides the ideas I have in my head, I have also those things which I have seen in cities all over the world. Why should they not be duplicated in Canada? . . . there is a floor I saw in Paris . . . a ceiling I saw in Vienna .. .. .. lighting in Monte Carlo .. .. .. walls in Marseilles .. .. .. decorations in Budapest .. .. .. Canada would enjoy a restaurant like that, no?"

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MUSICAL EVENTS

Mme. Bidu Sayao's Lyric Genius; New Canadian Symphonic Work

By HECTOR CHARLESWORTH

WHEN the lovely Brazilian prima donna Bidu Sayao made her first local appearance in recital several seasons ago her style seemed rather diffident as though miscellaneous song interpretation was new to her. This is what usually happens with a young singer whose backgrounds have been mainly operatic. As time has gone on, the scope of her art has widened and today there is no more satisfying mistress of song-interpretation. She proved this in an appearance at Massey Hall last April; and her recital in the same auditorium last week, must remain, for those who heard it, one of the most beautiful memories of the richest season in Toronto's musical history. At its outset last September she helped to make it so by her appealing impersonations of Debussy's Melisande and Verdi's Violetta ("Traviata").

In the pursuit of duty, a musical commentator hears many voices that command admiration without the aid of personal beauty. But when one sees a singer so lovely in presence and personality as the Brazilian diva, appreciation is stimulated. Though were she the reverse of comely, one would be cheered by the tenderness of her tones even when singing *forte*, and soaring at the top of her range. She is the pupil of a very great artist, the tenor, Jean de Reszke, and it is natural she should excel in finesse. The voice itself is so even that in her scale singing every tone has equal value. It is evident that her sense of pitch is perfect; in a transition, or a leap to a high note, the voice remains impeccably true. The manner in which she can sustain a long pianissimo passage is thrilling.

What helps to make her a rare interpreter is the unique perfection of her phrasing; her ability to impart to her tones emotional coloring that precisely fits the words she sings. Though she speaks with a foreign accent she has mastered pure English diction in singing, as she showed time and again. The same is true of the other languages which come easier to a woman of Latin origin. Her admirable English diction was manifest in her first number, Haydn's setting of Shakespeare's lines "She never told her love."

A Famous Misprint

I am prompted to tell a story of a misprint which happened in connection with those lines. Many years ago the late William Winter dramatic critic of the New York Tribune, in penning a eulogy of Adelaide Neilson's Viola, cited her rendering of the speech and quoted it. This was the way the lines appeared in print next morning;

"She never told her love but let
them,
Like a worm in the bird, feed on her
damaged cheek."

I recall the error because I have heard singers make them sound that way. But Bidu Sayao's declamation was perfect and suffused with delicate emotion.

Last autumn we heard her sing "Ah, Fors e lui" from "Traviata" in its proper dramatic setting. Her style and glow of utterance are also thrilling in concert performance of the aria. The same thing happened that nearly always happens when it is sung on the platform. The aria has two climaxes with a pause after the first. At this point a large number of listeners burst in with thunderous applause so that the prima donna had to stand and smile until the clamor subsided before continuing the number. For many concert goers a preclimax seems to signify a coda.

Madame Sayao's codas are wonderful; an art she probably learned from Jean de Reszke. In nearly every song she sings they are so thoughtfully handled as to provide the ultimate touch of loveliness. This was true not only of her smooth and wooing renderings of Mozart, like "Deh Vieni Non Tardar" (Marriage of Figaro) and "Batti, Batti" (Don Giovanni) but short lyrics in many languages. Among several Spanish numbers dedicated to her, the conclusion of Sandroval's "Lament" (in the form of a vocalize) was especially thrilling. Nothing could have been more perfect than her singing of French songs,—especially Ravel's "Air de l'Enfant" and Ernest Moret's unique "Nelumbo".

In her program nothing showed the finer aspects of her art more than three of the loveliest of British songs; Lady Scott's "Think on Me", the traditional Scottish lyric "Turn Ye to Me" and Sir John Stephenson's "Last Rose of Summer". They are avowedly sentimental but the prima donna gives sentiment high poetic dignity.

An Alexander Brott Work

The most important Canadian composition the Toronto Symphony Orchestra has played recently is a tone-poem "War and Peace" by Alexander Brott, a distinguished Montreal violinist and composer. In the latter capacity he has already won international recognition. "War and Peace" is dedicated to Sir Thomas Beecham, who saw the manuscript before it was completed, and warmly encouraged Mr. Brott to finish it. Sir Thomas was so well-satisfied with the result that he conducted its premiere some time ago with the Seattle Symphony Orchestra.

With regard to all new compositions of so original an order there is bound to be difference of opinion. But this may be said for Mr. Brott's work; in concept, treatment and technical ability it is the equal of any composition of similar inspiration that has been composed since 1940. The first section has an undercurrent of lament and suffering alternating with the fury of mechanized warfare. In typifying the latter phase Mr. Brott is original and skilful. The development of the "Peace" section is imaginative, lucid, and cleverly scored. Obviously he is a composer of reach and grasp. Sir Ernest MacMillan's rendering brought forth the meanings powerfully and clearly and the orchestra was obviously giving the Montreal composer its best.

Listeners were carried to another world by a very ancient novelty, a Symphony in D for Strings by Francois Joseph Gossec, a Belgian composer who had one of the longest careers in the history of music. He was born near Beaumont in 1734 and died in Paris in 1829. His musical activities lasted from about 1745 when he was a choir boy in Antwerp Cathedral until the year of Waterloo when he gave up his duties at the French Conservatoire. He was an adherent of the Mannheim School headed by Joseph Stamitz which did much to broaden and modify orchestral expression during the period between Bach and Haydn. In his lifetime he saw many changes in the map of Europe and was one of those who ardently embraced the principles of the French revolution. In 1795 he was one of the group which also included Gretry, Mehul and Cherubini chosen to organize the Paris Conservatoire. The Symphony in D is a tyical example of his tranquil, melodious inspiration and is altogether charming. Sir Ernest's interpretation was rich in appropriate graces. He also gave impressive and beautiful renderings of Mendelssohn's "Fingal's Cave" and the Brahms Fourth Symphony.

The Godden Recital

On one or two occasions of late one has alluded on this page to the abilities of the Canadian pianist, Reginald Godden. At his recital in Eaton Auditorium last week he once more deeply impressed listeners by his power, facility, and quality of tone. His program was mainly devoted to contemporary music, but as a preliminary he gave a notably fine interpretation of the Bach-Busoni "Chaconne" (of which one wrote last week) and Beethoven's Sonata, opus 109. The latter was the pianist's most notable achievement; an interpretation full of poetry and exquisite in execution. It is one of the foremost works of the composer's third period; and reveals complete emancipation from the rigidity of the Sonata form as he conceived it in youth. It abounds in passages of sheer loveliness and freedom of fancy. Mr. Godden also played brilliantly a group by Toronto composers, Dr. Arnold Walter, Barbara Pentland and Henry Somers, a very youthful aspirant, all bearing the stamp of originality and cleverness. Among other numbers was Prokofieff's tumultuous Sonata, No. 7, rendered with bravura enthusiasm.

THE FILM PARADE

Even a Most Reliable Scenario Isn't Entirely Dependable

By MARY LOWREY ROSS

A NOVEL publicity stunt which never seems to have occurred to our enterprising press agents, would be a Scenario Contest, in which the contestants would be asked to construct the plots of pictures *before* they appeared. The rules governing the contest would be that you deduced the scenario from the title and the cast of characters, together with any hints you might pick up from advanced poster displays in the lobby. The prize, a season's pass to the movies, would go to the contestant whose guess came closest to the actual scenario. (Entries to be submitted in block letters on one side of the paper only.)

Using the above method I worked out a few preliminary deductions about "This Man's Navy", starring Wallace Beery. Wallace Beery would be an old-time navy man with a wonderful sense of naval tradition but a tendency to come unbuttoned over questions of discipline. Since Margery Main wasn't in the cast, there would have to be a sparring substitute to provide knockabout dialogue. This would probably turn out to be James Gleason, also an old navy man and always a reliable comic. James Gleason would have a pretty daughter and Wallace Beery a handsome son and the two would fall in love and get engaged over the violent protests of their embattled fathers. There would be an interior climax, just to keep things going—obviously a battle at sea, since this is a navy picture—which would result in someone's being disgraced. I figured on its being Wallace Beery, since no one else is capable of crowding every inch of screen with agonized discomfiture. James Gleason would be in it too however—maybe it was really James Gleason who got the signals crossed, and not Wally at all, Anyway the young people would quarrel and Wally would be demoted which would provide the usual opportunity for him to weep furtively and wipe his nose with the back of his hand. Then a kindly superior officer (Henry O'Neill), who had known Wally in the old days, would see to it that the old incorrigible got another chance. This would lead up to the final climax involving a thrilling rescue in which Wally saves James Gleason, Henry O'Neill and a large section of the South Pacific fleet. Fadeout with massed bands, showing the lovers reunited and watching a grateful Admiral pin a decoration on Wally's swelling chest.

On the surface it looks wonderfully easy. But it's surprising how many discrepancies can creep into the most carefully reconstructed scenario. For in "This Man's Navy" Wally didn't have a son, he just adopted one. (Darn it, I should have remembered that Wally has been the screen's most

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inveterate foster-father ever since the days of "The Champ.") James Gleason is the comic side-kick all right, but he hasn't a daughter. The heroine is just a pretty girl that Wally discovers behind a cash register. In the first climax it's the foster son, not Wally, who cracks up when a blimp battles a submarine at sea. The final rescue doesn't take place at sea but somewhere in the Himalayas. And it isn't James Gleason that Wally rescues but a famous British diplomat. I didn't even get a pass on that one.

"Till We Meet Again" threw out so many advance hints that it seemed impossible to go wrong. The advance posters in the lobby indicated that this was a story of the European underground, a movie locale almost as familiar by this time as our local chain-store. To make things even easier Ray Milland was shown in an aviator's jacket and Barbara Britton in the costume of a French novice.

Beginning with the supporting cast, I figured that Lucille Watson would be a local grande dame engaged in underground activities and Walter Slezak a particularly noxious Nazi gauleiter. The aviator would come down in the convent grounds and the novice would hide him away right under the gauleiter's nose. The local grande dame would take a hand but most of the work of rescue would fall to the novice, and the trick would be to balance her vocational point of view against the secular interest that Mr. Ray Milland would naturally arouse. A tentative romance would be sketched in but in the interest of both church and state the novice would have to be sacrificed in the end and the aviator allowed to escape.

Well it all goes to show how impossible it is to plot a trajectory from any number of fixed points in the movies. Lucille Watson, her features much sharpened by age and piety, turned out to be a Mother Superior. Walter Slezak, with all his ruthless *Ubermensch* qualities, was just another quisling Mayor. The aviator and the novice didn't fall in love. They spent a lot of time together but nothing came of it since the hero filled in every minute of it with loving descriptions of his wife—a recital, I couldn't help feeling, that would have been exasperating to even the most unworldly of novices. I couldn't even give myself credit marks for the ending, since no other ending would have been possible.

I didn't even attempt to grapple in advance with "The House of Frankenstein", which involved the greatest monster rally ever assembled on one screen—Dracula, the Hunchback, The Werewolf, the Frankenstein Monster and the Mad Scientist. I just expected it to be terrible, and it was.

• •

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THE NEUTRAL RACE

AS SHE took the kettle from the hob
Her Celtic frown was deep.
" 'Tis not our war, and weal or woe,
The paths av peace we'll keep.

This island knows her ancient wrongs
And, faith, ould hatreds cling,
So why should Ireland lift a hand
To help your tyrant King?

We mind too well the Black and Tans,
The homes and ricks they burned,
The fearless lads who faced their guns
And never homeward turned.

Av fightin' ways we've had our fill
And mourned at many a grave
Where Ireland's best gave up their blood—
And peace is all we crave.

But where are those six boys av mine,
'Tis that you're askin' me?
Why, Dinny's wid the Royal Dragoons
And Tim's in Italy.

My Michael's wid the London Greys,
While Shane's a Fusilier,
A gunner wid the British Tanks
For most a gorgeous year.

And the maddest fighter av the lot
Is my youngest laddie, Dan,
Who got a wound stripe in Iraq
And a medal at Iran.

And Pat's a bomber wid a plane
Lambastin' half the Rhine—
Though queer it seems that English wings
Should float a son av mine.

And queer it seems how peaceful lads
Forget their faith and kin
To show how Ireland's fightin' men
Must still save England's skin!"

ARTHUR STRINGER

• •

SKI LODGE HERO

THE women pursue him
Relentlessly,
They ask him for bridge
And afternoon tea,
They teach him to dance
And they teach him to ski,
The poor man hasn't
A minute free.

He's short and fat
And his hair is thin,
Intelligence dull,
A double chin,
Not even a spark
Of original sin—
But you see he's the *only*
Man at the Inn!

LOIS KERR

• •

NO GROUCH

Wartime Villanelle—

THO, now some things we do without
For our soldiers overseas,
We've little here to grouch about.

Till they put the Hun to rout,
And terminate the Japanese,
We should gladly do without.

Shame the slacker and the lout
Who cheat to get their luxuries!
We've little here to grouch about.

Should later years grow dark with doubt
And turmoil in the wake of these,
We'll hold the more we do without!

Now young and old, and all you stout
Fellows in right industries,
Work on for less to grouch about!

Tho' crook may sneer, and grafter flout,
We'll cancel their rascalities
If we unite to do without
Till all have less to grouch about!

TOM MACINNES

THE COSMIC SEA

OUT in the air, beneath the sky
There is a magic takes me by silent strength,
Disarms me of my self and leaves me in delight,
Will-less, formless, a drop within the cosmic sea.
But here, within my room,
Walled and barricaded against
The vast dissolving power of air and sky
I feel the edge and contour of my self
And gaze out through the window of my mind,
And weigh the universe on the palm of my hand.

I listen to music.
Mozart is a song within walled rooms.
Beethoven my room cannot contain,
Breaks down the walls, the roof,
Becomes a mighty song beneath the sky,
Becomes the air and sky,
And once again I am adrift, bereft of self,
Within the cosmic sea.

DIANA SKALA

• •

CAN WE FORGET?

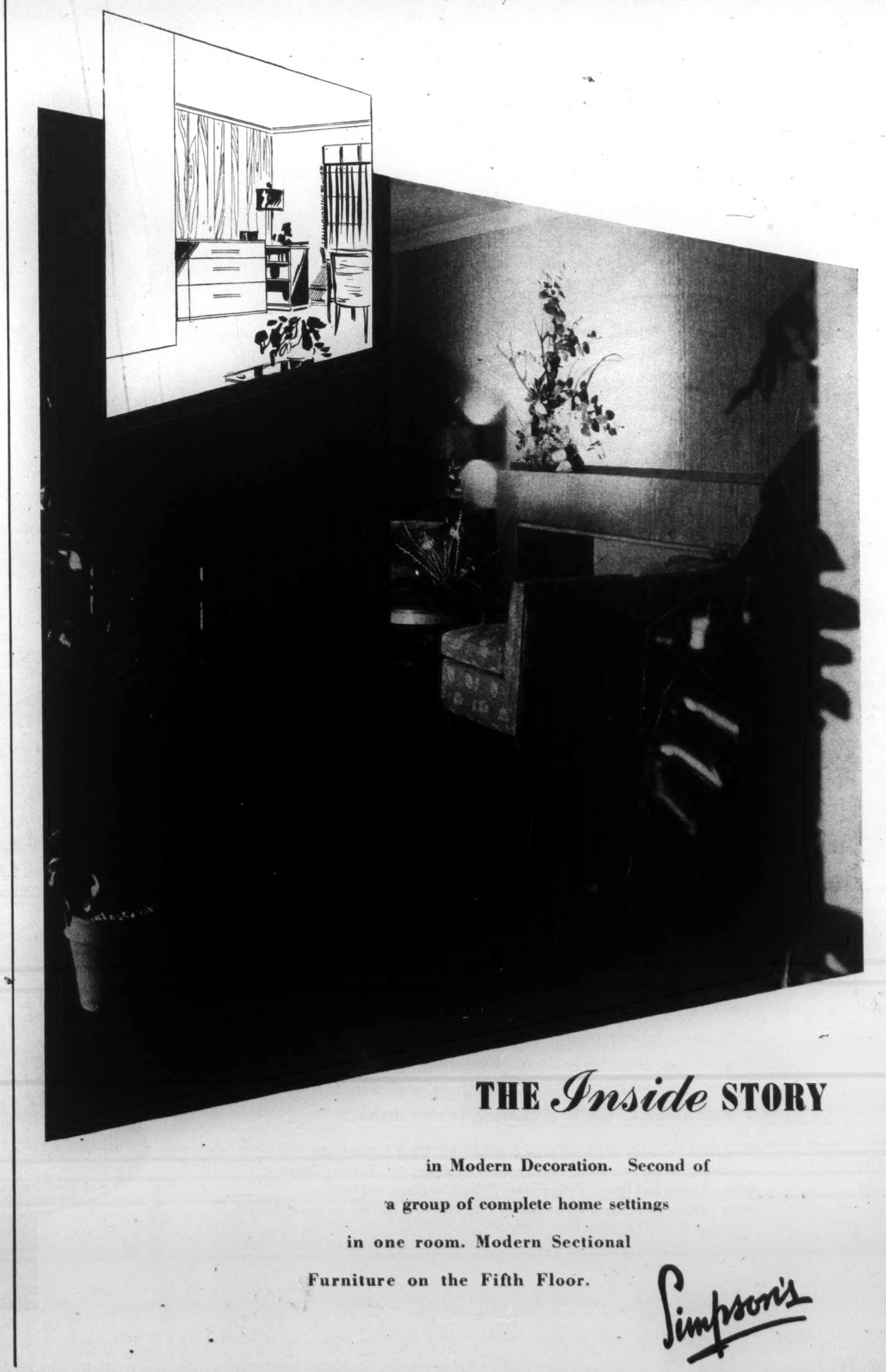
WE BORE the olive branch after The War—
That war which set even our foemen free.
Good will was ours. And our requital? Ask
The hapless dead of shattered Coventry.

And now the hour of settlement draws nigh
And whimpering whispers surge into a flood:
"Let us forget, and give the eager hand
Of brotherhood to hands that drip with blood."

Can we forget how peaceful Rotterdam
Saw death come hurtling from the May-time blue?
Can we, the many who received so much,
Ignore the debt we owe our Valiant Few?

The slavering Man-Beast halted, dare we now
Defy the mandate of the Ancient Word:
"The ruthless slayer must himself be slain:
Who draws the sword shall perish by the sword?"

VICTOR LAURISTON



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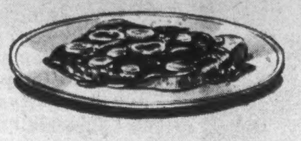
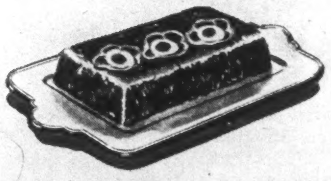


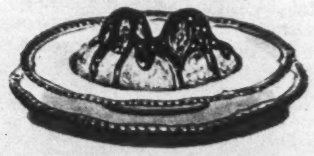
SAVORY SWISS STEAK—Take 2 lbs. round steak. Rub ½ cup flour, 2 teaspoons salt, dash pepper, into steak with saucer. Brown on both sides in fat. Cover with onion slices and ½ cup chopped green pepper. Add 1 tin Heinz Condensed Cream of Tomato Soup, diluted with equal quantity of water. Cover. Simmer slowly for two hours. Serves 6.

TOMATO CHEESE OMELET—Mix together 4 well-beaten eggs, ¼ cup Heinz Condensed Cream of Tomato Soup, ¼ teaspoon salt, ⅓ cup grated cheese. Cook slowly in heated greased pan. Lift edge with spatula to allow uncooked portion to flow underneath. When slightly browned, fold in half. Let stand over low heat until centre is set. To make sauce: melt 2 tablespoons butter; add 2 tablespoons flour; blend well. Add remaining Soup gradually. Cook until thick, stirring constantly. Serves 4.

LENTEN DISHES



FISH LOAF—Combine 1 cup flaked cooked fish, ½ cup dry bread cubes, 2 tablespoons finely diced green pepper, ½ cup finely diced celery, 1 tablespoon finely diced onion, 3 eggs, 1 tin Heinz Condensed Vegetarian Vegetable Soup. Grease loaf pan. Place 3 green pepper rings in bottom with slice of hard-cooked egg in centre of each. Pack loaf mixture in pan. Bake in moderate oven 45 to 60 minutes. Serves 10 cold—6 hot.



SALMON BALLS IN VEGETABLE SAUCE—Cook 1 tin Heinz Condensed Vegetarian Vegetable Soup and 1 cup water until bubbling. Combine 1 cup flaked cooked or canned salmon, ½ cup bread crumbs, 3 eggs, ½ tablespoon Heinz Prepared Yellow Mustard, ½ teaspoon Heinz Worcestershire Sauce, ¼ teaspoon salt. Shape into 8 balls. Place balls in soup. Cover. Simmer for 10 minutes. Serve with cooked rice and remaining soup. Serves 4.

57

HEINZ SOUPS

THE FEMININE OUTLOOK

Some Hearts and Flowers: The Affair of the Anniversary

By FREDERIC MANNING

MR. and Mrs. Clifton were settled comfortably for the evening after a busy and tiring day and were both relaxing hard. Mr. Clifton was deep in a book, highly recommended by Ye Little Book Shoppe, his wife not so deeply involved in one of her unheard of department store bargains. The marked down special failed to hold her for long and, putting the newspaper down, she asked her husband what he was so absorbed in. Mr. Clifton replied that it was the low-down on the higher-ups in Germany, all about food and gore. This intrigued his wife so much that she came and looked at the book over his shoulder. The title, she found, was "Blood and Banquets" and her reaction was immediate.

"That reminds me," she said, "did you remember to order the flowers for Elsie to-day?"

By the expression on Mr. Clifton's face she knew the answer before he replied. He started to speak, but Mrs. Clifton headed him off. "For heaven's sake," she exclaimed, "don't tell me you forgot?"

"Of course I didn't forget," said her husband indignantly; "but I met John at luch to-day and he said—"

Mrs. Clifton burst in. "I knew it," she moaned, "I told you last night that tomorrow is Elsie's birthday and you said you'd order the flowers today. I might have known you'd forget." She was getting into her stride. "You never remember anything I ask you to do. I don't suppose any of my letters you take to post get into the mail under a week. You never seem to care how important a letter may be."

Mr. Clifton felt this attack was unjustified and rallied his forces for defense. From a defense standpoint his rally was unfortunate as he asked, "What matters of international importance have you been writing upon now?"

Injured Role

His wife gave him what she hoped was a withering look, but didn't answer his question. She was the injured wife and meant to play it for all it was worth. "You just carry them around in your pockets for weeks," she said accusingly.

This left Mr. Clifton still on the defensive. "That isn't so."

"No?" asked his wife scathingly. "What about that air-mail letter I gave you to post to Pat? You said yourself you carried it around for days."

Mr. Clifton had had enough. "All right, all right," he said, "but what have letters to do with all this? I tell you, or have been trying to tell you, if you'll let me, that I met John today and Elsie's birthday isn't tomorrow, it's—"

His wife leaped in. "Elsie's birthday isn't tomorrow?" she repeated, quite unnecessarily her husband felt, "I should think I'd know the date of my own cousin's birthday. What do *you* know about Elsie's birthday?"

Her emphasis on the "you" annoyed Mr Clifton. "I don't know anything about it," he said, with some heat, "it isn't what *I* know about it, it's John. After all, I suppose a husband would know the date of his own wife's birthday, wouldn't he?"

Flowers for Breakfast

This again was unfortunate for him as it gave his wife an opportunity she never missed. "If that isn't just like a man! What husband ever remembered the date of his wife's birthday or his wedding anniversaries either? You're a fine one to talk about wedding anniversaries after what happened two years ago."

Mr. Clifton was annoyed. "I wasn't talking about wedding anniversaries or anniversaries of any sort, that seems to be your specialty. All I said was that John told me—"

His wife interrupted him. "I don't suppose John even thought of Elsie's birthday until you mentioned it. Elsie's birthday is exactly three months and two days after Aunt Edith's and Aunt Edith's is—now let me see, Aunt Edith's comes after Pat's and Pat's was—"

Mr. Clifton knew from past experience the torrent of family birthdays, anniversaries and other dates his wife could turn on, if he didn't turn her off. "All right, all right," he said, "I'll send the flowers the first thing in the morning which will be time enough, won't it? After all, she is having her birthday all day isn't she, not just at breakfast time?"

His wife was a bit mollified. "Don't be silly, of course she is. But I wanted flowers to be there for breakfast because, well, there's something sort of, well, I can't express it but—" She was floundering badly, but still determined to express what she said she couldn't. She tried again. "To get flowers for breakfast is so—" Her voice trailed away and Mr. Clifton remarked unfeelingly that it sounded like a cow's breakfast to him, but wouldn't a flower luncheon do as well?

Riposte

Mrs. Clifton reluctantly replied she supposed it would have to and picked up her knitting. Mr. Clifton resumed his book and was deep in it when the telephone rang. Usually Mrs. Clifton leaped liked a doe at the first tingle of the bell, but she was battling, none too successfully, with a heel and didn't move. Reluctantly, her husband heaved himself out of his chair and answered it. He was back in a few moments and wore a suspicious grin. Mrs. Clifton looked up. "Who was it?"

Her husband was elaborately casual as he said it was Elsie.

"What did she want?" asked Mrs. Clifton, "Why didn't you call me, I could have talked to her."

Her husband sat down and pick up his book.

This deliberateness always infuriated Mrs. Clifton, who snapped, "Why didn't you call me?"

"It wasn't necessary," her husband replied in his blandest tone. "She asked me to remind you about lunch tomorrow. It seems it's Aunt Edith's birthday."

• •

Gentlemen, Be Seated

By MARGARET E. NESS

SPRING really comes when the menfolk take off their topcoats and still spread over just as much seat space in the street cars!

But then it will take at least two generations to make men proficient street car sitters. The fault actually isn't theirs, poor lambs! And they're working terribly hard to overcome the time handicap imposed by the women.

Already they've gallantly surmounted the psychological aspect. At least the younger ones have. They can now sit down quite blandly without the least qualm while dear young things and "Grandma" strap-hang in front of them. Mind, I'm not blaming them. Indeed, no. I'm not against men having equal seating rights. If women will invade the business world (and haven't they every right!) they ought to be ready to take their chances on getting a seat home on the street car.

And that, obviously, is the attitude of the younger male population, too. But it's not quite so easy for the older men to achieve that "equal" attitude. They sit down firmly and look straight ahead defiantly as if to say, to the street car at large, "Well, dammit, I'm not comfortable about it, but by heck I'm going to see this thing through!"

Of course that self-consciousness will disappear with the older generation, and then we can all be quite natural and civilized about street car sitting. At least we can when a girl I know discards her altogether untenable stand that she doesn't mind a man taking a seat in the street car—but she does mind him racing her for it.

Offspring

And when the dear little present-day youngsters grow up—those whose fond (meaning foolish) Mammas push them onto a street car seat when they struggle to balance themselves and hold two armfuls of parcels—when those little boys grow up into paunchy old men and drop in to a "period" movie of 1935-45, they'll literally roll in the aisle with amusement to see an elderly gentleman get up and offer his street car seat to a woman. "Rather far-fetched, dontcha think!" they'll say. "But I suppose it must have happened. These movie Johnnies don't make mistakes like that."

Yes, the men are getting over the psychological factor very nicely, thank you!

It's the physical one that is going to take another whole generation to overcome . . . to make them the adaptable street car sitters that women are.

Sitters Sag

Men sprawl. They sit down, sag, spread their knees, turn out their elbows. Yes, they do!

Now women are neat street car sitters—taken slim and large. They sit tall—which means their hips spread as little as possible. And elbows are ironed out into an almost straight line, for their folded hands lie far forward—almost on their knees. Not in their laps like the Buddha-figured men.

Count the sitters sometime along the side-stretch marked "9 seats". If by miraculous chance you happen to catch a whole row of women, you'll find 9 seated—comfortably. If there is a sprinkling of men, the count will drop to 7. And if all men?

Heaven forbid! It hasn't come quite to that yet.

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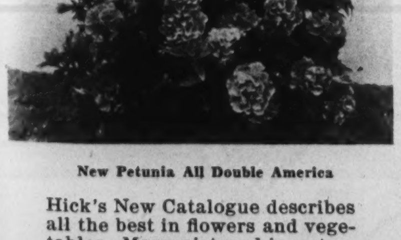

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CONCERNING FOOD

The Shortages Can Be Borne at Home but Not at the Front

By JANET MARCH

THE American journalist who came up to Montreal a few weeks ago and shot a report back to his Boston paper that Canada was a land flowing with cigarettes, liquor and beef steaks, and that no shortages existed had probably not tried to buy himself a shirt or his little boy a pair of underpants. If so he wouldn't have been so positive. When Donald Gordon spoke to the Women's Canadian Club in Toronto he threw a new light on the shortage question. He pointed out that if there were not shortages there would be something wrong with the war production of Canada, for it isn't possible to have no shortages in both war supplies and civilian goods. It does not take much thinking to decide whether the soldier or the civilian wins. The soldier's little boy wearing slippery plastic soled shoes with no socks, except the excessively short sort which vanish quickly into the shoe, his sister's ragged cast-off underpants and his blue cotton no-wool-today-Madam! sweater which has run in streaks, would not hesitate when asked whether he or daddy needs the good shoes most. The mud of Italy and Germany takes the best leather going and a little more glorying and no grousing about shortages would be a good idea.

The same goes for food too. Certainly we are better off than the United States. The American ladies may be able to buy stockings without lining up and taking part in a wild cat fight, but no amount of cat fighting seems to get the American citizen much in the way of a steak. Luckily the warm weather is coming soon and we'll be able to paint our legs or burn them an authentic brown.

The other day a speaker for the Red Cross said, "We in Canada are at war but not in the war; we don't know what being in the war means, thank God. But the people of France and Belgium know." If we did realize it more fully perhaps our citizens would not stage a run on the tea and coffee supplies just because of an unfounded rumor, or grab off all their ration books allow them to buy when they eat half their meals out, and so don't need all the butter and sugar.

The reduction of American shipments of meat to England would seem to point to the obvious necessity and duty of Canada to increase her shipments, so we should begin to figure out how to get along with less meat.

Vegetable Casserole

3 large potatoes
4 carrots
1 large onion
1 can of corn
1 cup of peas
3 stalks of celery chopped
1 green pepper chopped
1 pinch of thyme
1 bay leaf
2 teaspoons of salt
¼ teaspoon of pepper
2 sprigs of parsley chopped
2 tablespoons of butter
1 cup of vegetable water
1 teaspoon of caraway seeds
2 eggs
Breadcrumbs

Boil the potatoes with the caraway seeds, let cool in the water and then dice them. Cook the carrots, chop them up and then mix the potatoes and carrots with the canned peas, canned corn, celery, green pepper and onion. Season with the salt, pepper, thyme and bay leaf. Add the two eggs lightly beaten and then the cup of vegetable water—which should be a mixture of the water the potatoes and carrots cooked in with a little of the liquid remaining from the peas. Put this mixture into a casserole, dot with butter, sprinkle with breadcrumbs and cook in a moderate oven for about three-quarters of an hour.

Creamed Eggs

6 hard boiled eggs
¼ pound of mushrooms
½ green pepper chopped
1 tablespoon of finely chopped onion
1 tablespoon of lemon juice
1 tablespoon of flour
2 tablespoons of cooking oil
1 cup of milk
1 teaspoon of salt
Pepper
Paprika
2 tablespoons of butter

Hard boil the eggs and cut them into quarters. Mix the oil, lemon juice, salt, pepper and paprika together, pour it over the hard boiled eggs and leave them standing covered for at least an hour. Melt the butter and fry the onion, mushrooms and green pepper lightly for a few minutes. When they are lightly cooked stir in the flour and pour on the milk and stir till the sauce thickens. Drain the oil and lemon juice off the eggs, put them in the top of a double boiler, pour on the mushroom mixture and serve as soon as it is thoroughly heated.

Spicy, Hot and a Little Sweet

By HERMAN SMITH

STINA, with her tradition of the French *petit dejeuner*, must have been astounded by the enormous breakfasts demanded by a healthy farm family where days were long and work was hard. But once she saw their necessity, she never failed us in that respect. Home-cured ham and bacon with fried potatoes, eggs and omelets galore, brioche and croissants, compotes of cooked fresh or dried fruits, apple pancakes dripping with sweet butter and buckwheat honey, French toast, the *pain perdue* in all its variations—these she gave us in abundance.

But it was some time before the old Alsatian ruler of our kitchen was won over to our passion for hot breakfast biscuits, muffins, puffs and gems. Her native prejudice once overcome, she gave them to us in endless variety and always with that extra imaginative touch which bespeaks the true artist. Into her blueberry muffins went not one but two cups of the purple fruit. There were her apple muffins, a sweet mystery of tartness, sugar and scented spice. Her buckwheat pancakes, raised overnight and baked to the color of the leaves which clung stubbornly to snow-powdered oaks, were glorified by the addition of a few anise seeds.

In the winter mornings, I would rush to the warm lamp-lighted kitchen with all the famished eagerness of a small boy after a night of fasting to see what Stina had in store for us. Stina's bullfinch would chirp sleepily in his cage among the geraniums, the kitchen would be fragrant with the odors of coffee and spices and gay with the singing of the teakettle to the accompaniment of sputtering ham or bacon. The good things which were turned out under those capable old hands were all that they should be.

We liked them for breakfast, but Stina's breads are good at any time of the day, in any season.

Currant Honey Rolls

3 cups sifted flour
1 teaspoon salt
4½ teaspoons baking powder
½ cup shortening
1 cup milk
¼ cup brown sugar
¼ cup honey
1-3 cup melted butter
½ cup washed plumped dried currants

Mix and sift flour, salt and baking powder. Cut in shortening and then add milk, mixing quickly to make a soft dough. Turn out on lightly floured board and pat or roll in rectangular shape ¼ inch thick, handling as little as possible. Combine brown sugar, 2 tablespoons honey and ¼ cup melted butter. Sprinkle with currants. Roll as for jelly roll. Cut in ½-inch slices. Spread a 9-inch layer cake pan with the remaining butter and then with remaining honey. Place biscuits, cut side down and close together on honey. Bake in hot oven (450°F.) 20 minutes or until done. Invert onto warm serving plate and serve, sticky side up. Approximate yield: 12 rolls.

Apple Muffins

2 cups sifted flour
4 teaspoons baking powder
¾ teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons sugar
1 cup finely diced apples
2 eggs, well beaten
¾ cup milk
2 tablespoons shortening, melted
6 apple slices
2 tablespoons sugar
½ teaspoon cinnamon

Mix and sift dry ingredients. Add diced apples and mix well. Combine eggs and milk and shortening; add to flour and apple mixture. Stir only until mixed. Dip batter into greased muffin tins, filling them ⅔ full. Top each with a thin slice of apple, sprinkle with sugar and cinnamon and bake at 400°F. for 30 minutes. Yield: 8 large muffins.

★ A Thick Sauce from the English recipe—Gives zest to all meat and fish dishes.

19

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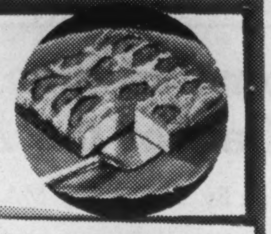

MAGIC Dutch Apple Cake

2 cups flour
½ tsp. salt
4 tsps. Magic Baking Powder
4 tbs. butter
1 egg
4 tbs. sugar
6 tbs. milk
2 apples

Sift together dry ingredients; cut in butter with two knives; add sugar; mix lightly. Drop egg into cup, unbeaten, add milk ice cold. Turn on to floured board, shape dough; put on greased sheet. Pare and cut apples into eighths; press into parallel rows into dough; sprinkle with sugar and cinnamon and dot with butter, mixed together in the proportion of two tbs. sugar and ½ tsp. cinnamon. Bake at 400°F. 20 minutes.

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CRACKERS *by* McCORMICK'S

A visitor who had an exalted opinion of his golf ability was extended the courtesy of a highland club. The first day he set out, accompanied by a bright caddie, and succeeded in burying his ball in every bunker, gully and burn on or near the links. He turned to the caddie and said:

"Really, this is the most difficult course I ever played on."

"Hoo dae ye ken?" asked the caddie gravely. "Ye havna played on it yit."

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ROASTED IN CANADA

C-3

THE OTHER PAGE

You Can't? Central Always Does It in the Detective Stories!

By P. W. LUCE

READERS of detective stories have long been baffled by the ease with which the amateur sleuth traces telephone calls. Three out of seven villains come to a sticky end because an obliging Central remembers connecting Main-1609 with West-5538 two days earlier during the rush hour. Central always rises to the occasion, in the who-dun-its.

It's different in real life. Central can give the wrong number, the right number, no number at all, ask you to repeat the number, or report the number taken out for good and sufficient reasons, but just try to get her to trace a number for you and you'll soon find out what a great little helper she can't be.

I speak with the voice of experience.

A man I didn't identify called my house.

"I've found the book your advertising for in the Classified 'Losts'," he said. "Do you want it back?"

My precious first edition of the Decameron, with annotations by Cardinal Richelieu! Did I want it back?

"Oh, how good of you," I gasped, almost overcome with emotion. "Thank you so much. Thank you. I wouldn't have lost that for anything. . . ."

"Well, you did," he cut in. "Could you come to get it right away?"

"Right away," I echoed. "Certainly. Keep the book away from your women folk. It has pictures in it that, er——"

"I've looked at them all, twice," he chuckled. "I'll wait here for you."

Click!

IT dawned on me that he had given neither name nor address.

Where was my prized Decameron, with snappy comments by Cardinal Richelieu on the wide margins?

For a moment I sat paralyzed with dismay, which is a very acute state of paralysis indeed. Then I remembered my detective fiction. If Nero Wolff and Philo Vance and Ellery Queen and Perry Mason and Hercule Poirot and Lord Peter Wimsey and little Mr. Pinkerton and a host of other world-famous sleuths could trace a phone call forty-eight hours old, I could surely do the same with one that had only just expired.

'Operator," I yelled. "Operator, give me ——"

I stopped, and rationalized the situation. After all, Operator was five miles away. She would hear me better if I lifted the receiver off the hook.

"Operator," I repeated, "there was a party calling me just now —"

"There is nobody on your line," she advised me, unnecessarily. "Number, please."

"I want to be connected with a gentleman who has my Decameron—"

"Number, please."

"No number, please," I begged. "Or rather, give me the number I had before. A minute ago, or less."

"What number would you like, please?"

I understand the operator broke Rule 1323 in putting the question in this form. She must have been a very new girl. No experienced operator ever departs from the established and traditional formula.

"I don't know the number," I cried, "but please hurry and reconnect me. It's a matter of life and death, almost. He has my Decameron."

"I'll connect you with the Supervisor." This sounded more like a fair warning than anything else. "One moment, please".

A crisp "Supervisor!" snapped in my left ear.

"Good evening, Madame Supervisor," I said. "Have you got my number, please?"

"Your number is sev-ven sikss tooo oh" I was informed.

"Thank you so much. It's for my Decameron. Will you please connect me."

"Call the operator, please," came an icy command.

Obviously I had made a grievous faux pas, like mistaking the butler for the second footman. I apologized to a dead telephone, and then called the operator.

"Seven six two oh," I requested, cheerily.

"What number, please?"

I repeated 7620, distinctly this time.

"Please consult your telephone book. Sev-ven sikss tooo oh is the number you're calling from." The tone was formal, but a bit on the chiding side.

In my confusion I hadn't recognized my own number.

I took a deep breath and then asked for "Trouble". As if I didn't have enough already!

"Trouble" had a deep bass voice. I didn't get very far with him.

"Listen, mister," he snapped, "we look after mechanical trouble, of which there's always plenty. We're not the Missing Persons Bureau. Get in touch with the Supervisor."

Reluctantly, I got through to the Supervisor. She cut my explanation very short.

"I gave you your number five minutes ago at your own personal request," she reminded me, unnecessarily. "Sev-ven sikks tooo oh."

"But that's my own number," I protested. "I want the number that was calling me about my book."

"Which was what?"

"The Decameron. A first edition, with spicy comments by Cardinal Richelieu——"

"What was the number calling you?" she interrupted. I gathered she was not familiar with the Decameron, and perhaps just as well.

"I don't know,"I confessed. "That's why I'm calling you."

Something like a sigh came floating over the wires.

"Who was calling you?

"I don't know. A gentleman who spoke as if his forebears might have had the Gaelic."

"MacBawbee, McBraw, McFosh, MacHootman, MacKilt," she suggested. She was evidently running her eye down a list of Scotsmen who might reasonably be expected to find lost books. "MacManse, McParridge, MacSporran, McTartan, MacWha. Which one was it please?"

"I don't know." I knew the phrase by heart by this time. "He hung up on me too soon."

"Where from?"

"From where he was."

"Sorry, but we can't locate your party without a name, a number or an address," she said, in tones of extremely definite finality.

Click!

A hot-tempered man would have made shreds of that telephone, but I kept myself under partial control, in spots. I am no phone-wrencher-off-walls in these days of difficult replacements, and at renter's expense, too.

There was one more hope. I have a friend who holds an executive position with the telephone company. I'm not quite sure what it is, but it has something to do with the glass insulators put on top of poles for boys to shoot at with air guns and catapults.

I called William at his home and put the facts before him.

"We're playing bridge and listening to a radio program," he protested. "What did you want me to do, exactly?"

"Use your influence to find the number I want," I implored him. "It should be easy. It's done in all good detective stories."

"I wouldn't know," he retorted. "I don't read crime stuff. And what of it? Are you a detective?"

"I'm head of the Lost Book Recovery Agency", I told him, inventing this out of dire necessity. "As such I'm entitled to have phone calls traced in spite of rules, regulations, and lapses of memory."

"O.K., O.K.," he promised.

And then the blighter went back to his bridge, quite unconcerned. He is no bibliophile.

I was still brooding over my misfortune when the doorbell rang.

It was my neighbor Angus McClaymore. He had my precious Decameron in his hand.

"You left it in my study last week," he explained. "I just saw my daughter eyeing it, so I thought I'd better bring it over right away, instead of waiting for you to come over. I tried to phone you again, but your line was busy."

"It certainly was," I agreed. "What's your phone number, Angus?"

"Two-two-five-three, Why?"

"I want to give it to the Supervisor," I said. "She needed it a few minutes ago."

The Girl He left behind
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FRANKLY A FLIRT...

Frankly a flirt is a peplum. Frankly a flatterer, too! Littleing your waistline, whittling your hips! The young pretty in our picture wears a suit dress with soft, rounded shoulders, deep, dolman sleeves. Her brief bonnet has a brim all beaded with "pearls." She picked her posies here, too! Typical of the coquetry in costumes from

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SATURDAY NIGHT, TORONTO, CANADA, MARCH 31, 1945

P. M. Richards, Financial Editor

Cartels Are a Result of Narrow Markets

By R. M. COPER

In this first of a brief series of articles on the cartel problem the author discusses the type of cartel that restricts output in order to enjoy higher prices than would rule in a free market. Such cartels, says the author, are a consequence, not the cause, of our general economic situation. The danger of substitution prevents them from keeping prices unduly high for any length of time. On the other hand, they eliminate an excessive misdirection of capital investment and are to be commended on this score.

Dr. Coper was formerly a cartel expert in the service of the Weimar Republic.

NO PRE-WAR governments and no pre-war diplomats had any reason to be proud of their achievements in preventing war. The present is a time when it is more necessary than ever to analyze, and learn from, the failure of those governments and diplomats to preserve peace. This analysis is being obscured by the widespread desire to lay a great portion of the blame for the present war at the door of cartels.

It is quite true that certain cartels in certain countries bear a heavy share of the responsibility for this war. It is quite true that there were cartels in certain countries powerful enough to make and unmake governments, or to bend governmental and parliamentary policy to their will. But the answer is not to "bust" cartels. If in the past there were cartels which had governments under their thumb, the answer is that in the future governments must have the cartels under their thumb. But cartels there must be. Capitalism cannot dispense with them at the present stage of its development. And cartels as such are neither "bad" nor "good". Governments, in the democratic countries, are elected by the people. If the people elect governments which knuckle under to cartels the people have themselves to blame. Education in general is not influenced by money.

In the pre-war years, when the economic causes of nazism were staring in everybody's face, most people ignored this implication. Even now, when many people look upon cartels as the originators of this war, many others persist in regarding nazism as something psychological or biological that is inherent in "the Germans." The conclusion which follows from this contradiction is that it was either the Nazis or the cartels which were responsible for the war. And if it was the cartels it cannot have been the Nazis. Fantastic though this conclusion is it is dangerous, for it may detract popular attention in the victor countries from the need for the extermination of nazism everywhere.

The German cartels as such were no worse than any other cartels. What made them so hateful was the fact that their masters imposed the Nazi regime upon their country. The German cartels will be destroyed. I say, they *will be* destroyed, not, they will *have to be* destroyed. They will be destroyed because their basis will be destroyed. This basis is a mixture—quite unknown on the North American continent and in Great Britain—of capitalism and feudalism. The victor peoples and governments are agreed that German feudalism, the economic basis of Junkerdom, must go. But Junkerdom is so intertwined with capitalism in Germany that it is impossible to destroy the one and maintain the other in the form prevailing in most of the United Nations.

In many of the victor countries—especially in Great Britain, the United States, and Canada—the majority of the people want to maintain capitalism. But they do not want to maintain it as it was before 1939; they want to perfect it. Cartels are a

(Continued on Next Page)

THE BUSINESS ANGLE

We Can't Afford Socialism Now

By P. M. RICHARDS

THE commonest ground for the combatting of national socialism is that it would require the surrender of personal freedom of action and choice (logically the government would have to dictate the work to be done, hours to be worked, rates of pay, the kind of goods to be supplied and the kinds of houses to be lived in, because the state would be responsible for providing all these things) and that, besides being more unpleasant than most parlor socialists imagine, this would mean the undoing of all the building for individual freedom that has gone on, so slowly and painfully and erratically, for hundreds of years. Shall man lightly and mistakenly toss away what he has won so hardly?

The practical impediments to the setting up of national socalism in Canada are less often discussed. They are many, and some of them have been pointed to in this space. The No. 1 impediment, surely, is this: national socialism can be practised only by a country which is economically independent of other countries, and Canada, very definitely, is not that kind of a country. Could an individual practise socialism by himself, in a non-socialist community? Canada is in that man's position. This country lives and prospers largely by performing trade services for other countries, and, to the extent that it does so, has to meet the conditions established by its foreign customer-employers. Of course it could escape that obligation by refusing to perform those services, but that would mean doing without the employment, purchasing power and goods which those services provide. It would necessarily mean a tremendous reduction in the Canadian standard of living.

Least Self-Sufficient

Because the people of this country normally enjoy a standard of living only slightly below that of the United States (the highest in the world), and because this country has vast natural resources, the fact that Canada is far from being a self-sufficient country is commonly ignored or overlooked. Said the Royal Bank of Canada's monthly letter of September 1944: "There is (in Canada) a large proportion of unproductive area, there are seasonable handicaps, and, at least up to this war, there were only a few specialized imports. On the prairies, we produce the world's best wheat with less expenditure of labor and capital than nearly any other part of the world; our northern forests are particularly suitable for making newsprint; our mines yield many times as much precious metal as we can use, and our hydro-electric power resources are the envy of the world. On the other side of the ledger, we are short of coal, iron, oil and tin; we cannot produce tropical fruits, cotton and other fibres."

The Royal Commission on Dominion-Provincial Relations reported in 1940: "Every country could display a list of surplus and deficit resources, but in few would both sides of the balance sheet contain such basically important products in such volume, and in few would the extremes be so great. . . Because Canada is one of the least self-sufficient countries in the world, her prosperity and her very existence depend on making the most of her own specialized resources, and on trading them as advantageously as possible for her other requirements."

We Can't Eat All Our Wheat

The national socialists, placed in power, can redistribute the national income as much as they like, they can nationalize the factories and farms and bring everyone down to a common standard of living; but, do what they will, they cannot make it possible for Canadians to consume all the wheat that Canada can produce, nor all the newsprint, nor all the minerals; they cannot, without paying for them with exports, bring in the oil and coal and other things Canada must have if her people are to maintain their present way of life. Says the Royal Bank letter quoted above: "To maintain a national income on the scale needed to sustain employment and the standard of living to which Canadians have now attained, this country must have a great volume of export trade. Between the two world wars, Canada's exports represented an average 30 to 35 per cent of her national income, while less than 10 per cent of the United States' national income accrued from export business."

At this point the national socialists will say that they really do not propose to eliminate exports and imports; that they intend only to nationalize the means of production and the profits of industry. But, under state ownership and operation, would there be any profits? (The state cannot operate permanently at a loss, any more than private industry can.) The records of many years, and particularly of this wartime, show conclusively that production costs are much higher under governmental than under private operation. This being so, under state socialism the prices of Canada's exports would rise accordingly. Would Canada continue to be able to sell her surplus products to foreign buyers under these conditions—in the face of strong postwar competition from other nations needing larger foreign markets?

As this column has pointed out more than once recently, this country is confronted with a very difficult postwar trade situation, to deal with which successfully will call for the highest competitive efficiency. On material grounds alone, it would seem to be no time to flirt with national socialism.

Burma Victory Was Triumph Over Jungle and Japs

The fabled city of Mandalay fell last week, but there is still much to be done before the Japs are completely cleared out of the difficult monsoon-swept jungles of Burma. In the north, Chinese troops are seriously threatening Japanese escape routes eastward from Burma. Much of the advance through the jungle is necessarily single file, and the going is made doubly difficult because of the many jungle streams. Below: British troops are seen fording a river, supplies loaded on pack mules.

Below: Wounded are brought back from the front by air. By using gliders large numbers of casualties can be evacuated at one time.

(*Continued from Page* 30)

phenomenon of capitalism's growth to its perfection. To "bust" them would be to stunt this growth. It would be to interrupt this growth until cartels had re-formed, probably in an outwardly different form. And then the growth would resume until capitalism reached perfection. The process would be prolonged by the length of the interruption through "busting." Only the perfection of capitalism can overcome cartels. Why is this so?

To answer this question we must, first, know what is meant by perfect capitalism. The clearest sign of the present imperfection of capitalism—or rather, of capitalism as it was until 1939—was the recurrence of mass unemployment. We will, then, simply say that in perfect capitalism there exists no mass unemployment. If and when this state of affairs is reached production will expand steadily, and cartels will automatically disappear.

Three Groups

Cartels are associations of firms. They may be divided into three groups, according to the purpose which the association is to serve. I will describe, and discuss the aspects of, these various purposes in a subsequent article. Here, I will mention only one of these purposes, the one that is relevant to our present topic, namely, the cartel that restricts production in order to enjoy higher prices than those which would rule if the member firms of the cartel competed with one another in a free market.

Normally, such a restriction of production is not undertaken with the intent to create scarcity. It is undertaken in order to adapt an industry's output to the existing demand. Take, for instance, an industry which, as the result of competition, has a capacity to produce 500,000 tons per year of whatever it produces. Suppose, further, that the average demand, over a number of boom and depression years, for the industry's product is 100,000 tons. If the firms of this industry form a cartel and restrict each member's output to 20 per cent of its capacity, this cartel does not create scarcity. It merely reflects the existing restriction of the market. The causes of this restriction lie in the general make-up of capitalism as it was until 1939. So that cartels are a consequence, not the cause, of our economic situation.

Of course, the price which such a cartel can demand for its product is higher than the price which would result from competition between the members if there were no cartel. But there is nothing objectionable in this. The possibility of substitution is so great, owing to modern technique, that no cartel could maintain an unduly high price, and unduly restrict its output, for any length of time.

Economic history shows that cartels are usually established in depressions. Very often cartels dissolve themselves in booms because the members—at least, the strong members—feel restricted by the regulations which they have imposed upon themselves by participating in the cartel. Permanent full employment will ensure the permanency of conditions that militate against cartels. Moreover, the constant expansion of economic activity, which is the prerequisite as well as the consequence of permanent full, or near-full, employment, will increase the stock of wealth to such an extent that the rate of profit will fall to a very low level. And no association of firms will be able to raise the profit rate of its members above the general level.

At the same time, the steady expansion of production and, with it, the steady widening of the scope for investment, will eliminate the danger of over-investment in industries which might seem to offer the prospect of higher-than-average profits. It is this over-investment which, under pre-war conditions, promoted the formation of cartels.

On the other hand, cartels prevented, under past conditions, an excessive misdirection of capital investment. This is one of the reasons why we cannot dispense with cartels in the future until capitalism is perfect and cartels shall eliminate themselves. At present, the forcible elimination of cartels would lead to the destruction of large amounts of capital and, thus, to deepening crises and depressions.

NEWS OF THE MINES

Nickel's Uses Should Expand in Postwar, Despite New Metals

By JOHN M. GRANT

IF any reassurance was needed as to the prospects for nickel when the war ends, this is found in the comments of R. C. Stanley, president of the International Nickel Co. of Canada, in the recently issued annual report. With the war in its sixth year and nearing the end, he was quite sanguine and states they must now plan for the transition from war to peace. "It is fortunate that we have no serious reconversion problems to meet," he points out. "We have gained much from our industrial research which we have vigorously pursued since the last war. We are now planning further increases in our technical staffs."

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It is expected by Mr. Stanley that the commercial sales of nickel will continue to expand, as they have done since the company's development and research division was inaugurated in 1922. "Our nickel refinery business should benefit by the growth in the sales of stainless steel," he stated, "and the indications are that there will be an expanding market for our rolling mill products." "We believe," he continued, "that as a result of the uses of nickel for many war applications and by applying proper research, advertising and selling methods, we shall be able to market our diversified products when the war is over."

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The chief objective of the International Nickel company during 1944 was the continued production of sufficient strategic metals to meet the full war demands of the United Nations. This, Mr. Stanley remarks, was attained notwithstanding that the output of nickel was lower than in 1943 owing to the continued labor shortage and to the use of inexperienced labor. These unfavorable factors also had the effect of increasing the production costs. With sufficient manpower, he adds, the company's plants are equipped for production.

While International Nickel reports a reduction in 1944 of slightly over 15,000,000 pounds in nickel sales there was an increase in copper sales of around 3,500,000 pounds. Earnings of $1.71 per common share compared with $2 in the previous year. In the final three months of last year it is noted, however, profits totalled 44 cents per share as compared with 40 cents in the previous quarter and 51 cents in the final three months of 1943. An increase of nearly $10,000,000 is shown in the net working capital, which stood at $106,710,611 as against $96,935,202 on December 31, 1943. Capital expenditures in the past year were $4,652,127, which compares with $5,445,248 in 1943, and it is estimated that a further $6,000,000 will be expended in the current 12 months.

•

A slackening of demand already this year for nickel was reported at the recent annual meeting of Falconbridge Nickel Mines by J. Gordon Hardy, president, who announced his resignation from the company. According to Mr. Hardy while United States sales continue normally, cancellation clauses with short notice are overhanging, and in the United Kingdom a marked recession has set in. "You will understand that our only market for both metals (nickel and copper) was under government control in the U. S. and U. K., and that war needs dictate their de-

(*Continued on Page* 35)

1792 1945

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BOREAS IS THE FLYER'S BITTER ENEMY
. . . BUT HE'S BEING FOILED

As engineers, we must admit that all present means of dispersing ice formations on aerofoil surfaces are only partially satisfactory—but encouraging. Most efforts have been directed to the wings.

To disperse ice on propellers, the National Research Council of Canada over a period of six years, evolved an electrical system which achieved outstanding results. It employs heater elements cemented on the leading edge of the blades and obtains power from an auxiliary alternator mounted between propeller and engine.

As a Company serving industry and laboratories with *specialized* machines, we were privileged to manufacture several generator units for these experimental purposes of the National Research Council.

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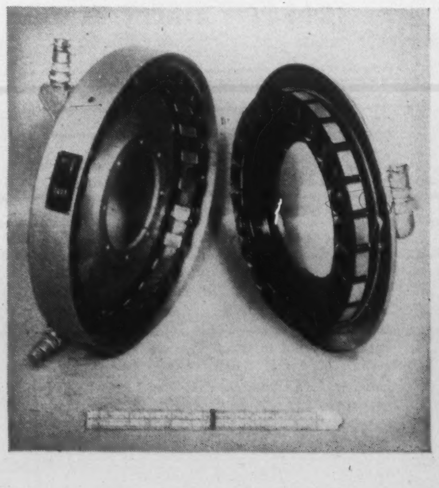

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QUARTERLY DIVIDEND

NOTICE is hereby given that a dividend of 1¼%, being at the rate of 5% per annum on the paid-in capital stock of the Company, has been declared for the quarter year ending March 31st, 1945. payable April 16th, 1945, to share holders of record at the close o' business March 31st, 1945.

By order of the Board,
J. WILSON BERRY,
General Manager

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

DIVIDEND NO. 233

Notice is hereby given that a dividend of fifteen cents per share, in Canadian Funds, on the paid-up capital stock of this Bank has been declared for the quarter ending 30th April 1945 and that the same will be payable at the Bank and its Branches on and after Tuesday, 1st May next, to shareholders of record at the close of business on 31st March 1945. The Transfer Books will not be closed.

By Order of the Board
S. M. Wedd
General Manager

Toronto, 20th March 1945

GOLD & DROSS

It is recommended that answers to inquiries in this department be read in conjunction with the Business and Market Forecast.

C. A. M., Port Colborne, Ont.—Unlisted dealers inform me that recent trading in shares of CANADA RADIUM MINES has been between 15 and 20 cents with stock offered at 20 cents a share, so that should answer your question as to whether or not you take up the option at a higher price. Personally, there are many stocks selling around this price which I would prefer to buy. No activity has been reported by MIDWEST IRON CORP. since the fall of 1943. Considerable surface work and diamond drilling was completed and while some iron values were encountered the exploration failed to indicate a commercial deposit. Whether the shares will in time be worth something depends on the results secured if work is resumed.

P. H. B., Saskatoon, Sask.—The downward trend of CANADIAN INDUSTRIES LIMITED earnings was reversed in the year 1944 and net per share on the common stock was $6.04 per share as compared with $5.88 per share for 1943. Following the outbreak of war, earnings of the company had previously shown a steady decline for four years in spite of progressive increases in the volume of business and in the investment in manufacturing facilities. In the latest year sales showed an increase of 5 per cent despite the continued decline in the demand for certain major products. Although the spread between the price ceiling and production cost of nearly all products became still narrower, the larger volume of output resulted in a slight improvement in net income. Operating profit showed a drop from $9,980,161 to $9,672,211 but provision for depreciation was reduced from $2,789,050 to $2,460,267 and no allowance was made for war contingencies against provision of $200,000 in 1943. Tax provision was $3,133,500 in 1944 against $3,150,500 the previous year. On the other hand, investment income declined for the third consecutive year to $723,921 against $843,192. The result was net income of $4,556,010 as compared with $4,444,770 for 1943. The financial position was again impressively increased, net working capital standing at $21,310,735 at the end of 1944 as compared with $18,414,540 the previous year-end and $15,467,982 two years ago. Current assets included cash and government securities of $12,865,912.

H. K., Tilbury, Ont. — While SPRINGER STURGEON owns over 99% of the issued shares of Canadian Industrial Minerals, which has one of the largest and most accessible deposits of barite on the North American continent, it has other investment and property holdings. The company's principal interest is in the barite business and the future prospects appear bright. A jump of approximately 400% in the 1944 shipments of barite over the previous year was reported. Last year was

BUSINESS AND MARKET FORECAST

Watching the Barometer

BY HARUSPEX

THE ONE TO TWO-YEAR TREND: Stocks, following their sustained advance from the April 1942 lows, completed a zone of distribution in July 1943, and recent months, preparatory to eventual cyclical decline.

THE SHORTER TERM TREND of the market is to be classed as upward from the mid-September 1944 low points of 142.96 on the Dow-Jones industrial average, 38.71 on the rail average. For detailed discussion of technical position, see remarks below.

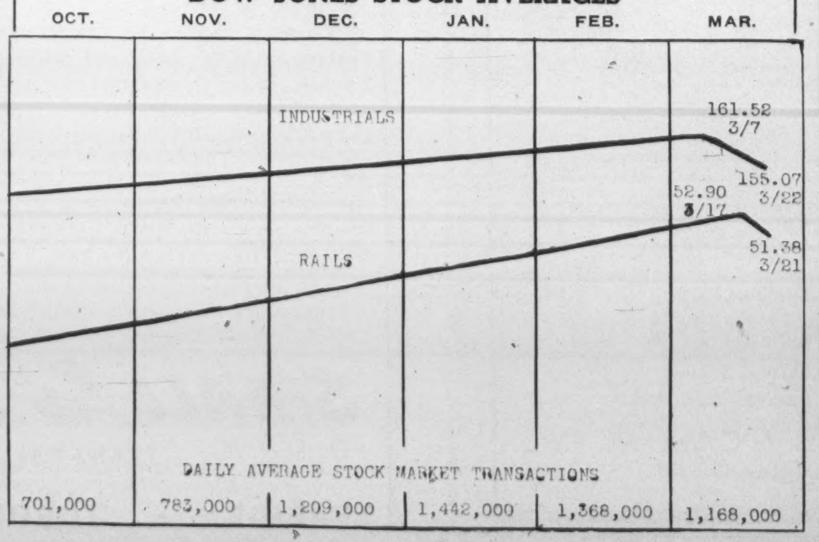
In December of last year the Dow-Jones railroad and industrial averages effected joint upside penetrations of certain previously established resistance levels, **the net effect of which reconfirmed both the primary movement from April 1942 and the intermediate movement from September 1944 as upward.** This was so reported in these Forecasts at the time with further reference to possible attainment of the 160/165 level on the Dow-Jones industrial average, which level as a possible objective had been initially alluded to as early as June, 1944.

Subsequently, the averages have zigzagged upward to March 6, 1945, at which peaks the rails closed at 52.51, the industrials at 161.52. From the aforementioned high points the averages then (1) declined to 49.86 and 156.34 on March 9, (2) rallied to 52.90 and 158.92 by March 17 and (3) at press time had declined to 49.72 on the rails, 152.27 on the industrials.

In substance, after an intermediate move of around 5 months (September to March) the market has reached a high point, suffered a minor setback, rallied to the first high point, but failed to carry both averages through it, since which time renewed recession has been witnessed. In this renewed recession the industrial average has closed decisively (more than 1.01 points) under its previous low point of 156.34, but the rail average has so far failed to close decisively under its previous low point of 49.86. A close in the rails at or under 48.85 would confirm the breakdown in the industrials and would signal the intermediate trend as downward. The one to two year trend would not yet be called into question other than recognizing, of course, that every intermediate turndown in a long term upward swing is the possible first stage of a primary reversal.

Normal maximum limits to a short term correction would be around 150/149 on the industrial average. With or without such correction a moderate advance (say 5 to 12 points) in the industrial average into new high ground is not impossible on psychological relief when war terminates. Considering the length of the long term move, however, and the eventual adverse economic implications of war's ending, we continue to favor a cautious attitude and conservative policy.

DOW JONES STOCK AVERAGES



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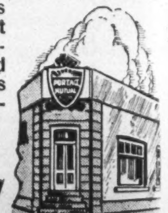

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the first to include a full 12 months' operation and sales were valued at over $1,000,000 compared with a little over $260,000 for the previous year. A block of shares is held in Leitch Gold Mines as well as in a number of prospects. A 25% interest is held in 16 claims in the Yellowknife area on which Consolidated Mining & Smelting Co., plans diamond drilling. A large deposit of ilmenite was staked on the north shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence in 1943, and this contained 30% titanium dioxide.

T. K. F., Paris, Ont.—Sales of BARKER'S BREAD LTD. for 1944 increased slightly over 1943, with the biscuit division again contributing the greater portion of the year's profits. The company had to contend with increased costs and fixed ceiling prices for bakery products and operating profit of $113,788 was a moderate decline from $120,938 the previous year. After all charges, including depreciation of $45,846 and provision for income and excess profits taxes of $30,730, retained net profit for 1944 amounted to $37,212, compared with $41,594 for 1943. Net profit for both years was exclusive of $1,100 estimated refundable portion of the tax, and in 1944 was equal to $5.85 per share on the 6,412 shares of 5% preference stock of $50 par value and for 1943 to $4.80 a share on the 8,662 preference shares outstanding at the end of that year.

L. A. G., Stayner, Ont.—I understand HILLTOP GOLD MINES has returned its charter to the Ontario Provincial Secretary for cancellation as the company had no assets. The company had been inactive for years and dropped or lost all its properties. Manitoba Basin Mining Co., is again becoming active after having been idle for years. A gold prospect has been acquired adjoining the Heath Gold property in the Red Lake area. Ground is also held in the Herb Lake area of Manitoba. Titurno Mines Syndicate has been inactive for years.

H. S. H., St. Catharines, Ont.—It is expected that the Canadian plants of MASSEY-HARRIS CO., LTD., will continue to operate mainly on civiliar. production during 1945, the president, James S. Duncan, told the annual meeting, and that they will be taxed almost to capacity to turn out, in addition to important war work, the increased manufacturing program permitted for the domestic markets of the United States and Canada and other export markets. Ir. the United States, although the company's farm implement program is a heavy one, it is anticipated that war work will be substantially greater than in 1944, due principally to the greatly increased production program for tanks. Serious and increasing difficulties are expected to be experienced due to the scarcity of critical materials and the cor.tinuing shortage of manpower.

A. J., Three Rivers, Que. — Diamond drilling on the Porcupine property of NOVELL PORCUPINE failed to indicate commercial ore and a group of nine claims was then acquired in Midlothian township, scene of a recent gold rush. A large carbonate zone has been under exploration for some months and diamond drilling is planned. This body is said to be well sheared and mineralized and has panned gold in several places along the strike. A quartz vein eight feet wide and running parallel to the carbonate zone was rcently reported.

J. M. P., Toronto, Ont.—INSPIRATION MINING & DEVELOPMENT CO. is an exploration, development and financing company, largely interested in carrying out diamond drilling operations for other companies under contract, which work provides a considerable portion of the company's revenue. Some of the revenue comes in the form of shares from companies for which work is done. A substantial portfolio of gold mining shares is held including Malartic Gold Fields, East Malartic Mines, Sladen Malartic and Pascalis, as well as blocks in other producing gold mines and prospects.

Canadian Westinghouse Co., Ltd.

ACTION of the directors of Canadian Westinghouse Company, Limited, in recently declaring a stock dividend, in lieu of the usual cash dividend, is an indication that the management is already planning for the conversion to normal operations and to cope with the demand for household appliances and electrical equipment in short supply during the war years owing to government restrictions on their manufacture. In announcing the stock dividend it was stated that the management believed that cash resources should be conserved for plant expansion and reconversion and rehabilitation in he postwar period. This ploughing back of earnings will increase the equity of the shares and add to the company's very substantial working capital. During the war years the company has been handicapped by the government restrictions on the manufacture of household appliances and other normal products which will be in greater demand, as a result of the restrictions, in years following the cessation of hostilities. The advancements made in appliances in recent years will also bring a demand for up-to-date equipment to replace older equipment and it is essential that Canadian Westinghouse facilities be sufficient to meet this demand, both as to capacity and on an efficient cost basis. In the annual report for 1944 John R. Read, President, informed shareholders that until restrictions are removed from the use of electrical apparatus for normal peacetime requirements it is probable that substantial demand will exist for equipment for the rehabilitation of war-damaged industries in foreign countries, and he mentioned that some orders have already been received.

Net profit for 1944 of $1,795,141 was a reduction from $2,140,615 for 1943 and an increase from $829,175 for 1939. The 1944 net profit included $300,000 portion of the refundable tax, and for 1943 $700,000. Earnings per share for 1944 amounted to $3.29, of which 55c per share represented the refundable tax, and for 1943 $3.92 per share including $1.28 a share refundable tax. Surplus at December 31, 1944, of $8,061,937 was an increase from $6,462,466 at December 31, 1939.

Canadian Westinghouse Company, Limited, has always maintained a strong liquid position, with net working capital of $13,351,171 at the end of 1944 up from $12,621,968 at the end of 1943 and $10,062,875 at the end of 1939. Current assets of $20,744,582 at December 31, 1944, included cash of $2,678,861 and bonds of $5,441,713, in the aggregate in excess of total current liabilities of $7,393,411.

The company has no funded debt or preferred capital stock, with the authorized capital consisting of 900,000 shares of common stock of no par value, of which 546,000 shares were outstanding at December 31, 1944.

The company's dividend record goes back for forty years, during which period extras were distributed fom time to time along with regular dividends. Most recent declaration was a dividend of one share for each forty shares held, in lieu of cash, for the first six months of 1945. In the preceding five years cash distributions were made at the annual rate of $2 per share per annum, and prior to that in varying amounts on the present and old common shares.

Canadian Westinghouse Company, Limited, was incorporated in 1903 with a Dominion Charter, to acquire the Canadian interests of Westinghouse Air Brake Company and The Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company, and affiliated companies. The company produces a wide range of electrical equipment, household appliances, lamps, air brake equipment, etc.

Price range and price earnings ratio 1939-1944, inclusive, follows:

	Price Range		Earned	Price Earnings Ratio		Dividend
	High	Low	Per Share	High	Low	Per Share
1944	57	47¾	$3.28-a	17.4	14.6	$2.00
1943	48	39½	3.92-a	12.2	10.1	2.00
1942	42	34½	3.69-a	11.4	9.3	2.00
1941	42	36	2.59	16.2	13.9	2.00
1940	52½	41	2.20	23.9	18.6	2.00
1939	60	50	1.52	39.3	32.2	1.75
				17.5	14.5	
Approximate current average				16.0		

a—Includes 55c per share refundable tax 1944, $1.28 per share 1943 and 87c a share 1942.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939
Net Profit	$ 1,795,141-x	$2,140,615-x	$2,012,720-x	$1,418,312	$ 1,203,383	$ 829,175
Surplus	8,061,937	7,658,796	7,310,181	6,864,461	6,538,149	6,426,466
Current Assets	20,744,582	21,166,417	21,322,325	19,381,536	15,139,624	11,851,490
Current Liabilities	7,393,411	8,553,449	10,228,265	9,216,450	4,946,602	1,788,615
Net Working Capital	13,351,171	12,612,968	11,094,060	10,165,086	10,193,021	10,062,875
Cash	2,678,861	2,693,727	2,769,280	2,492,381	2,306,154	1,246,603
Bonds	5,441,713	5,897,148	4,801,766	5,437,286	4,943,520	4,321,273

x—Includes $300,000 refundable tax 1944, $700,000 1943 and $475,000 1942.

J. S. EDGAR

who has been elected to the Board of Directors of Thompson Products Ltd., St. Catharines, Ontario. At the Company's annual meeting, Mr. Edgar was also elected a Vice-President, assuming the title of Vice-President in Charge of Engineering. Mr. Edgar is a graduate of the University of Toronto, Class of 1935, B.A.Sc., Mechanical Engineering, and has been associated with Thompson Products for the past eight years. He is a member of the Society of Automotive Engineers.

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Penmans Limited
DIVIDEND NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the following Dividends have been declared for the quarter ending the 30th day of April, 1945.

On the Preferred Stock, one and one-half per cent (1½%), payable on the 1st day of May to Shareholders of record of the 2nd day of April, 1945.

On the Common Stock, seventy-five cents (75c) per share, payable on the 15th day of May to Shareholders of record of the 16th day of April, 1945.

By Order of the Board.
C. B. ROBINSON,
Secretary-Treasurer.
Montreal,
March 15, 1945.

THE SHAWINIGAN WATER AND POWER COMPANY

NOTICE s hereby given that a dividend of twenty-two (22c) cents per share has been declared on the no par value common shares of the Company for the quarter ending March 31, payable May 25 to shareholders of record April 19, 1945.

By Order of the Board,
H. G. BUDDEN,
Secretary.
Montreal, March 26, 1945.

PROVINCIAL PAPER LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that Regular Quarterly Dividend of 1¾% on Preferred Stock has been declared by PROVINCIAL PAPER LIMITED, payable April 2nd, 1945 to shareholders of record at close of business March 15th, 1945.

(Signed) W. S. BARBER,
Secretary-Treasurer.

ABOUT INSURANCE

Extension of Social Security Cover Endorsed by Life Insurance Men

By GEORGE GILBERT

On the principle that prevention is better than cure, the removal of the causes which give rise to the need for social security measures would undoubtedly produce better results for society as a whole than any of the compulsory social insurance schemes so far proposed or in effect.

But, until these causes are removed, there is no doubt that to the extent a social security program provides sound insurance coverage to replace reliance upon charity and public relief it is a distinct improvement on older methods of relieving need.

BOTH in Canada and the United States it is recognized in insurance circles as well as in other quarters that, where many of the population are without income as a result of conditions beyond their control, some sort of machinery is desirable in order to furnish protection against widespread inability of individuals to provide their own security. Social Security measures represent an effort to create such machinery, and all sound legislation of this type has the support of the insurance industry whose own welfare is wrapped up with that of the people as a whole.

While emphasizing the fact that a sound over-all economy is the first requisite of an effective plan of Social Security, it is recognized that to the extent a sound social security plan provides insurance to replace reliance upon charity and public relief it is a distinct advance on older methods of relieving needs. But it must also be kept in mind that if such benefits ever become accepted as a satisfactory standard of individual security the "will to work" will be seriously weakened if not destroyed, with the result that not only will the social security system fall of its own weight but the foundations of the country's economy will likewise be undermined. It is of prime importance to fix the benefits at a level which will not tend to destroy the incentive to work and produce.

Benefits Provided

Across the line Social Security legislation has been in effect since 1935 when the Federal Social Security Act was enacted. Extensive amendments to this Act were made in 1939. There are also associated State plans in force. At the present time, the Federal Act provides monthly benefits under old age and survivors insurance for the retired employee and his wife and certain other benefits to specified dependents surviving at his death, whether he was retired or not. Unemployment benefits, governed largely by State laws, include partial wage continuance to the unemployed worker for a limited period of time, with benefit formulas varying from State to State. Monthly assistance benefits, administered by the State and financed jointly by State and Federal governments, are also available for certain needy classes—old people, dependent children and the blind.

It is to be noted that the system of old age and survivors insurance calls for specific contributions from employer and employee, while the cost of unemployment benefits, except in a few States, is assessed against the employer alone.

Many important groups of workers are at present not included among those covered by the Act, such as agricultural workers, railroad workers, government employees, workers in non-profit organizations and the self-employed. Recommendations for the extension of the coverage, wherever feasible, to all such gainfully employed workers have recently been made in a statement on Social Security issued by a joint committee of the American Life Convention and the Life Insurance Association of America, of which many Canadian life companies are members, and a committee of the National Association of Life Underwriters, representing the agency forces of the companies doing business in the United States.

State and Individual Plans

In this statement it is aptly pointed out that there should be "neither conflict nor confusion between Social Security, properly defined, and that type of security which comes from the exercise of personal industry and thrift. While the one represents the basic protection which can safely be provided through government programs set up by society at large, the other gives the individual the right and the opportunity to raise himself and his family to such level of security as his industry and thrift dictate. They complement each other rather than conflict with each other."

It is recommended that a thorough review be made of the processes by which benefits and eligible status are determined under the old age and survivors insurance provisions of the Act. The present minimum benefits of $10 a month, it is claimed, might well be raised to, say, $20 a month ($30 per aged couple) subject to appropriate safeguards, though the over-all limit of $85 per month should not be increased. Another recommendation is that close study should be given as to how best to safeguard the interests, under the old age and survivors insurance provisions, of the men and women in the armed forces and of persons who continue to work after age 65.

While the old age and survivors insurance provisions furnish retirement benefits at age 65, it is recognized that physical old age does not necessarily arrive for everybody just at that time. At present the Social Security Act does not make any allowance for the worker who through disability in one form or another becomes prematurely old in the sense that he can no longer earn a living. It is recommended that benefits be made available for the period between age 55 and age 65 on proof of total and permanent disability, subject to discontinuance of benefits before age 65 should recovery take place.

Would Fill Social Need

At age 65 the worker would become entitled to his normal old age benefit on account of wages received prior to disability. By providing total and permanent disability benefits payable after age 55, it is claimed, a social need would be filled, and it would also tend to counteract unsound arguments for a general reduction in the retirement age under the old age and survivors insurance provisions. It would likewise meet some of the demand for granting old age benefits to women prior to age 65.

Another recommendation is that unemployment compensation, wherever feasible, should be extended to all groups of workers, with the exception of self-employed and possibly employees of non-profit organizations where the added weight of payroll taxes on these institutions might restrict their operations. There should also be study of the practicability of having unemployment benefits related, in part, to the number of dependents of a married worker.

It is also recommended that there should be continued experimentation by the States with merit rating in financing unemployment benefits be-

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fore arriving at a positive conclusion as to the relative weights of its advantages and disadvantages. A moderate increase in the maximum number of weeks for which unemployment compensation is payable, if and when the financial position of State plans permit, is advocated rather than the shortening of the waiting period or an increase in the level of benefits.

Great caution is urged in considering proposals to increase the level of compensation benefits, which if carried out may endanger the will to work. The Beveridge Report in Great Britain is cited as giving recognition throughout to the importance of the fundamental principle that Social Security benefits must not impair incentives to work and save, and the statement declares that the principle that Social Security benefits should not be above the subsistence level is particularly applicable to unemployment compensation.

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Inquiries

Editor, About Insurance:

Can you give me any information about the Continental Casualty Company? Is it a reliable company, licensed by the Government? I have been thinking of a sick benefit policy of some kind, and only recently a salesman from this company called on me.

G.M.G., Georgetown, Ont.

Continental Casualty Company, with head office at Chicago and Canadian head office at Toronto, was incorporated in 1897 and has been doing business in Canada under Dominion registry since 1917. It is regularly licensed in this country and has a deposit with the Government at Ottawa for the protection of Canadian policyholders exclusively. At December 31, 1943, the latest date for which Government figures are available, its total assets in Canada were $1,413,240, while its total liabilities in this country amounted to $833,427, showing an excess of assets in Canada over liabilities in Canada of $579,813. Canadian policyholders are amply protected, and all claims are readily collectable.

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News of the Mines

(*Continued from Page* 31)

mands," remarked Mr. Hardy. "Quite recently, though, a third government has come into the market for cash purchases and has taken some of your metal." This is of course, he adds, the showdown that postwar will bring until civilian markets are reopened, presumably under preliminary government supervision and then later freedom. L. K. Brindley, vice-president for two years, succeeds Mr. Hardy as president.

•

If new and low grade gold mines are to be kept in production, some encouragement and incentive must be provided by a decrease in taxation, particularly as it affects mines in this category, J. B. Lynch, president of Siscoe Gold Mines stated at the recent shareholders meeting. Siscoe, he said, was a borderline producer with gold at $35 an ounce and the most hopeful prospect at present is low grade operation, and a higher price for gold and a revision of taxes with respect to low grade companies, were first requirements for profitable operation. According to Mr. Lynch if a revision of legislation is enacted to cover all mines, it would not be particularly helpful to new and low grade mines. He pointed out that legislation exempting new producers from taxation for a 3½ year period expired in 1941 and has not been renewed and urged the bringing into force again of this exemption. As regards Siscoe, he said that the management faced with low grade conditions decided to expand outside exploration and that during 1944 over $150,000 was spent with associated companies. While as yet no success has been achieved in locating a new mine, some moderately encouraging results have been obtained.

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Ore reserves in 1944 were well maintained at Central Patricia Gold Mines despite the serious manpower shortage which necessitated discontinuance of development on the lower levels opened by the internal shaft. No work was done below the 2,050-foot level last year. At the end of the year reserves were estimated at 441,912 tons, as compared with 445,269 tons at the close of the previous year. Net profits were 12.46 cents per share, as against 18.38 cents in 1943. Net working capital increased from $1,346,006 to $1,414,233. No ore bodies were located by diamond drilling on the Derlak Red Lake Gold Mines and negative results were secured in drilling on 10 optioned claims adjoining the Derlak, with the result the option was relinquished. Further work is planned next summer on a group of 28 claims at Miminiska Lake, 75 miles to the east of the main property, where results were encouraging.

•

A recent listing on the Toronto Stock Exchange was that of Norbenite Malartic Mines, which company has 16 claims in Vassan and Malartic townships, Quebec. As the result of recent drilling a new large tonnage producer appears to be shaping up for Quebec at Norbenite which lies to the north of Malartic Goldfields. The company has nearly $78,000 cash on hand as against accounts payable of $1,650. Commencing the beginning of April options on 1,566,662 shares of the company's stock are to be taken up at prices ranging from 25 to 65 cents per share, the whole to be taken up within 18 months at the rate of $5,000 per month.

•

In the opinion of J. D. Perrin, president of San Antonio Gold Mines, in Manitoba, the continuation of high taxation on mining companies is defeating its own end, viewing the matter as part of the total economy of the country. "Hundreds of thousands of tons of ore is being left in the ground owing to taxation and in most instances cannot and never will be recovered," he states. "That means that thousands of men are going to be deprived of employment through loss of this ore, and the national treasury deprived of the income tax on their earnings."

•

A satisfactory year is reported by Preston East Dome Mines for 1944. While the milling rate was above the previous 12 months a small decline in grade kept production under that of 1943. A slight increase was shown in costs partly on account of shaft sinking and net profits of 8.93 cents per share compared with 12.24 cents. Dividends were maintained and working capital position improved by over $58,000 to $868,311. Ore reserves at the end of the year were estimated at 675,490 tons, grading 0.225 oz. per ton, after allowance for dilution, which was a reduction of 145,330 tons, but it is pointed out when lateral dedevelopment reaches the favorable zones this decrease could easily be made up.

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Fred W. Scriven, president of Humlin Red Lake Mines Limited, announces that Colin A. Campbell has been elected a director. Mr. Campbell is well-known to the mining fraternity of Western Canada and his home camp of Red Lake and has recently acquired a substantial interest in Humlin. It will be remembered that last summer on his return from the Arctic he, with his cousin George Campbell, staked the property now known as Campbell Red Lake Mines A. R. Graham, the company's geologist, is at present on the property to outline an intensive development program for which ample funds are available.

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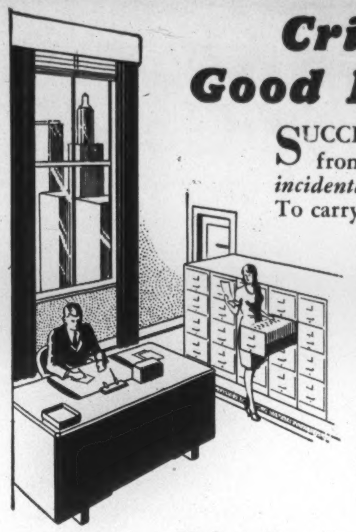
With Bobjo Mines, Sand River Gold Mines, Newmont and an unnamed group participating, finances are being supplied for the exploration of the Eastcourt property in Louvicourt township, Quebec. The property which comprises 10 claims lies to the south and east of Regcourt and is reported to have the same structure as that on the Regcourt, Bevcourt and Buffadison properities. Interest attaches to this news because the entry of Bobjo and Sand River into this eastern section of Quebec, which is arousing so much attention at present, brings two more of what are commonly known as the Jowsey group of companies into the area. God's Lake Gold Mines, which figures prominently in the financing of the Regcourt and Bevcourt properties, is reported to have taken up all its remaining options on treasury shares of these companies.

Leads Company

MERTON DURANT

The Canada Life Assurance Company announces that Merton Durant led all its underwriters in Canada and the United States in the past 12 months. Mr. Durant, who has specialized in estate tax problems and employee pension plans, secured over a million dollars of business during this period. He is associated with Manager R. J. Trenouth's Toronto City Branch.



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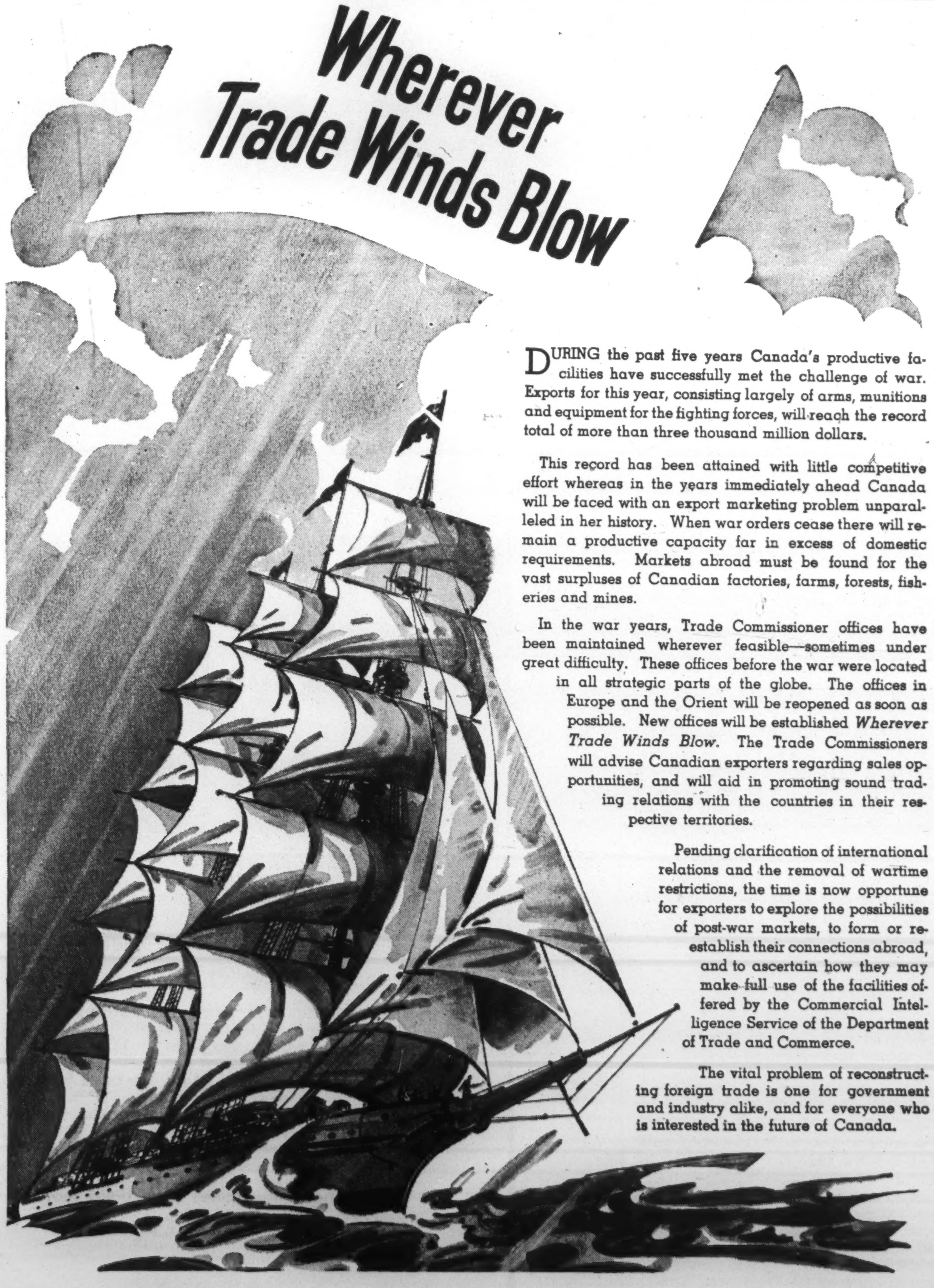

DURING the past five years Canada's productive facilities have successfully met the challenge of war. Exports for this year, consisting largely of arms, munitions and equipment for the fighting forces, will reach the record total of more than three thousand million dollars.

This record has been attained with little competitive effort whereas in the years immediately ahead Canada will be faced with an export marketing problem unparalleled in her history. When war orders cease there will remain a productive capacity far in excess of domestic requirements. Markets abroad must be found for the vast surpluses of Canadian factories, farms, forests, fisheries and mines.

In the war years, Trade Commissioner offices have been maintained wherever feasible—sometimes under great difficulty. These offices before the war were located in all strategic parts of the globe. The offices in Europe and the Orient will be reopened as soon as possible. New offices will be established *Wherever Trade Winds Blow*. The Trade Commissioners will advise Canadian exporters regarding sales opportunities, and will aid in promoting sound trading relations with the countries in their respective territories.

Pending clarification of international relations and the removal of wartime restrictions, the time is now opportune for exporters to explore the possibilities of post-war markets, to form or re-establish their connections abroad, and to ascertain how they may make full use of the facilities offered by the Commercial Intelligence Service of the Department of Trade and Commerce.

The vital problem of reconstructing foreign trade is one for government and industry alike, and for everyone who is interested in the future of Canada.

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

Ottawa

TO 4660

Hon. James A. MacKinnon, *Minister*

Will Politics Override The Economic Good?

By GILBERT C. LAYTON

Saturday Night's Financial Correspondent in London

Very significant is the proposed Government bill in Britain to control the location of industry. The effect of the bill, Mr. Layton says, depends very much on the complexion of the government in power. And if, as seems likely, future governments are likely to incline towards action limiting the freedom of industry, the danger is that its authority will exercise in the economic sphere without dictate of what is economically good.

London

THE attitude one adopts towards the Government's proposal to influence the distribution of British industry depends, broadly, upon two considerations. The first is whether the problem is viewed as a purely economic one, or is interpreted to involve questions of social appropriateness; and the second is whether the problem is seen through a political spyglass.

All the discussion which has followed the announcement of the Board of Trade's bill proves this. There has been talk of the "Special Areas" as though it was a malign industry that created these pre-war black spots of depression, and as though it was therefore a bounden duty of industry itself to establish itself, irrespective of the compulsion of efficiency and economy, where it could achieve the major social good. On the other hand, there has been talk of the right of industry to self-government that ignores the inescapable fact that a sense of responsibility must be displayed by the dominating employer of the nation's labor.

The political distinction is even more clear cut. If you belong to the Left, then it is self-evident that the location of industry, together with all the paraphernalia of industry, must be nationalized to cheat the devil. And if you are of the Right, then interference with the liberty of business to find and furnish its own home is intolerable.

Coercion Vaguely Defined

The Barlow Report was pretty well blown on by these cross currents, and though they will be attracted less to the much less insistent Bill of the B.O.T. this, too, might easily founder in them when the time comes to put them into operation.

Everything, of course, will depend upon the Government that implements the proposals. At this stage the element of coercion is vaguely defined. The President of the Board of Trade has observed that a manufacturer can decide against the advice of the authorities, but has pointed out that a building licence will be necessary wherever the factory is to go up, and if the Board of Trade refuses its consent, the "defaulting" manufacturer will either have to do what he is recommended to do, or not put up his factory at all.

This may seem to represent coercion enough, but it has to be remembered that the provisions of the bill will operate in conditions from which the stringency of immediate war compulsions has been removed, and that in those circumstances the Government may find coercion finally impossible, and "influence" not very influential. It is against this background of political factors that the importance of the bill has to be viewed.

What the bill actually says, in its two broad categories, is therefore not to be taken as what the Government will necessarily attempt to do. So far as the Development Areas (which we used to know as the Depressed Areas) are concerned, the important clause is that which promises subsidy, by another name, to the manufacturer undertaking business in these localities. Any individual proposing to operate may receive a loan or be awarded grants towards the cost of paying interest on moneys either borrowed or to be borrowed for the purpose of his undertaking. Also, special Government contributions may be made towards the improvement of the local facilities, such as road and rail communications, docks and harbors, gas and electricity, and health and housing services.

This is quite apart from the automatic right of the authorities, emphasized in the bill to acquire land and build on it themselves, and it may be regarded as the method of indirect approach. The direct approach is in the power to issue priority building licences for the Development Areas, which means that the manufacturer who wanted to get started quickly would have no choice but to bow to B.O.T. advice.

The bill also asks for power to prohibit development in congested areas, but this is a sideline, and political circles believe that the Government itself does not think much of the chances of achieving any real direction here, though something will probably be done about the London area.

Who Best to Decide?

It appears from this that the complaint widely levelled against the bill, that its propositions are inadequate, can be supported only in the context of a mystical knowledge of what this and subsequent Governments intend to do. If the intention was there, the bill could become a very powerful weapon of control over the location of industry. If it were not there, the bill need mean virtually nothing. Therefore, no final summing-up is possible at this stage.

If we are to argue from the precedent of Government action in pre-war days it would be difficult to avoid the conclusion that in the end there will be very little coercion. But from all accounts the political complexion of future Governments is likely to incline them towards action which limits the freedom of industry whether or no it also advances the well-being of the nation. And here is the real danger, that the time may come when political authority will be exercised in the economic sphere without dictate of what is economically good.

The job before British industry is to bring itself to a condition of efficiency unrivalled throughout the world, and it is at least a conceivable truth that the question of where a factory should be located is best decided by the people who also decide what the factory is going to contain, what it is going to produce, whom it is going to employ, and what markets it is going to supply.

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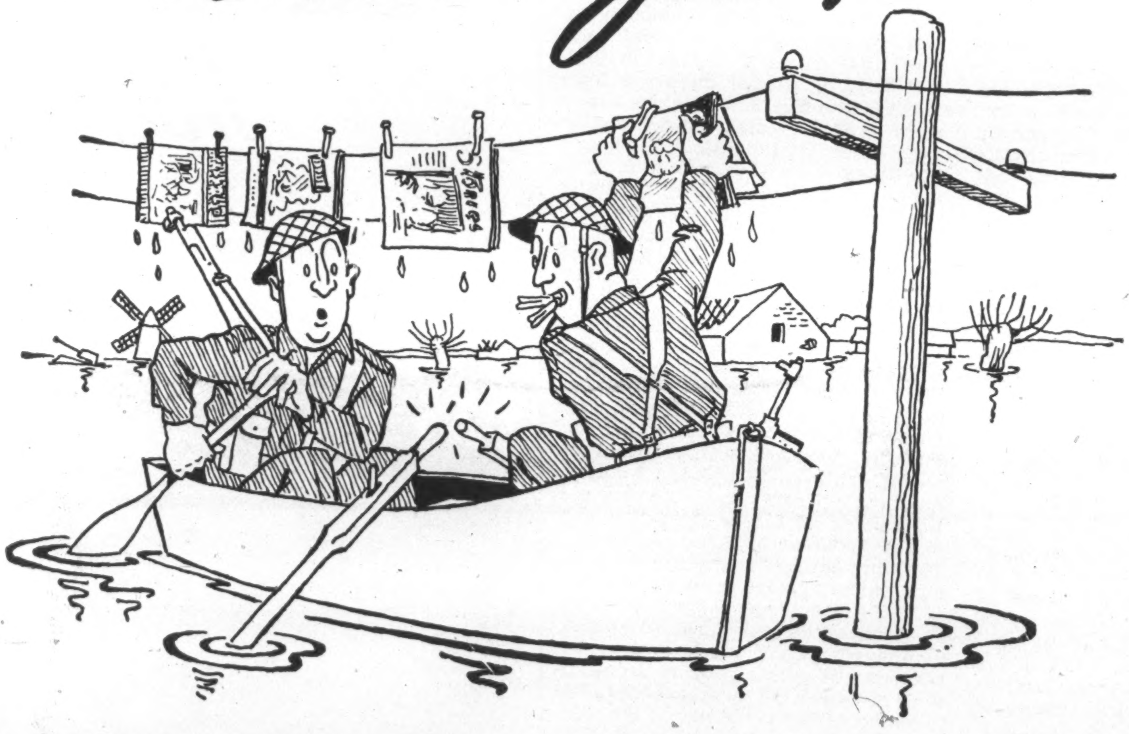
Where's Joe?



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LET'S ALL DO MORE TO WIN THE WAR

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